

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF THE

CHIEFS OF MEYWAR.

PREFACE BY COLONEL C. K. M. WALTER, RESIDENT, MEYWAR.

The introductory memorandum to biographical notes of the chief nobles and leading persons of importance in Meywar, and the memorandum on the genealogical table of the Meywar family from Maharana Sangram II downwards, were written in 1882 by Dr. Stratton, then Officiating Resident.

2. In 1884 it was deemed advisable that the biographies of *all* the chief nobles of Meywar should be written, and the papers were returned to me by the Agent to the Governor General for that purpose.

3. The only alteration I have made in Dr. Stratton's introductory note is to give the names of the different Chondowut and other families, being nobles of the first class, at page 3, and to add at page 13 under Head of A-Nobles the list of those whose biographies have been written by me and are attached. Dr.

Saloombar,
Bedla,

Bhimder.

Delwara,
Asind,

Stratton only gave short accounts of the five marginally noted. These I have reviewed and amplified, and have added

biographies of the remaining nobles of the first rank, of the Rajahs of Shahpura and Bunera, of the members of the three havelis or houses, also of two leading members of the thirty-two or second class-nobles, *viz.*, Rupnagar and Meagrop.

4. As being of some interest in showing the somewhat unique position held by the aristocracy of Meywar, I insert here the remarks made in the Gazetteer of the State under this head:—

“The Chiefs of Meywar enjoy rights and privileges which do not obtain in any other part of Rajputana. The Court maintained at their own estates is almost an exact counterpart of that of their Prince, and they exhibit few of the marks of vassalage observable at other Courts; and only on particular festivals and solemnities do they join the Prince's cavalcade. In durbar they take rank above the heir-apparent, a custom unprecedented in India, and granted in consequence of the heir-apparent having attended the Emperor's Court. When a Chief enters the presence, the entire Court rises, and the ceremonial is most intricate.

“In times anterior to the families of any of the present Chieftains, it was the custom, after every few years, to change the jagirs of the Chiefs, so that none might acquire local attachments. In later times, however, the system changed, and with fixed estates the Chiefs acquired influence; and the gallant deeds of many in the long-contested struggle for independence against the Muhammadan empire induce the sovereign to load them with honors and increase their possessions. On the cessation of foreign war, internal discord quickly broke out, which brought the Mahrattas on the scene; and the condition of Meywar overrun with predatory hordes rendered the construction of forts necessary to all who could afford to build them. These, while protecting the estates, added to the independence of the Chiefs. At the date of the treaty with the British Government the Chiefs were so many independent Princes, and one of the first acts of the Political Agent, who was invested with full control, was to draw up an agreement between the Maharana and his Chiefs, whereby the latter pledged themselves to restore all the lands they had usurped or otherwise acquired during the last 50 years, and in return were granted the maintenance of their rights and privileges. This was to restore territorial possession to the footing on which it stood in 1769, when the ruin of Udaipur may be said to have commenced. For many years disputes continued between the Maharana and his Chiefs and various agreements were drawn up, but never properly observed on either side. No open rupture has, however, occurred of late years.”

I may add to the above, however, that whilst in no way abrogating the position they hold, and continuing as jealous as ever of their rank and standing, the nobles of Meywar have been on much better terms with their ruler during the last few years than they have ever been before.

5. Dr. Stratton's memorandum on the genealogical table of the Meywar family, as mentioned above, was written in 1882, and his remarks therefore require amplification.

6. On the 23rd of December 1884, Maharana Sujjun Singh died at the early age of 24. He succeeded to the *gadi* on the demise of Maharana Shimbhu Singh in 1874, and was entrusted with full powers in 1876, so that he had ruled his country for only eight years. Having died without issue and without adopting, or expressing any wish as to a successor, it became necessary to elect a new ruler.

7. A reference to the genealogical tree of the Meywar family, which is annexed, would lead to the supposition that the proper person to succeed was the son of Samdar Singh as a descendant of Surat Singh, the second son of Nath Singh of Bagor. It must be remembered that Nath Singh had five sons, of whom the four younger had no direct male issue; the two youngest did not adopt, and the second and third sons adopted outside the House of Sangram Singh II, that is, instead of adopting from the issue of the third and fourth sons of Sangram Singh, known as the Kirjali and Seorati Houses, they preferred to go back to the descendants of Jagat Singh I. On the other hand, the third and fourth sons of Sangram Singh II have always adopted from each other's families. The result is that in the issue of Surat Singh and Bhagwat Singh, the second and third sons of Nath Singh, there is no blood of Sangram Singh II, the common ancestor, whilst in the Kirjali and Seorati branches the Sangram Singh blood is still flowing and is pure. So far then as blood relationship was concerned, to choose the son of Samdar Singh would have been equivalent to setting aside the house of Sangram Singh altogether and turning to that of Jagat Singh.

8. There being no one left in the Bagor Family who could succeed, selection or election was confined to the Kirjali and Seorati havelis or families. The third and fourth sons of Maharana Sangram Singh II received Kirjali and Seorati respectively. The two that had to be especially dealt with were Anup Singh and Dal Singh, sons of Dowlut Singh, the second son of Seo. Singh, eldest son of the fourth son of Sangram Singh II.

Dowlut Singh was adopted from the Seorati into the Kirjali branch, and so became the elder. Anup Singh had no son but adopted Surat Singh, the son of his brother Dal Singh. Consequently Surat Singh represented the elder branch. He has four sons, all children and all uneducated. Dal Singh was adopted by the elder son of the younger (Seorati) branch and had three sons, Guj Singh, Surat Singh, and Futteli Singh. Guj Singh is now the head of the Seorati branch and having no male issue lately adopted his youngest brother Futteli Singh. Surat Singh, as already mentioned, was adopted by Anup Singh and thus became the head of the Kirjali branch. The succession to the late Maharana had therefore to be made from one of the three sons of Dal Singh or their issue, and the choice fell unanimously on Futteli Singh, the youngest of the three brothers, as by age, character, and disposition the best fitted to fill the vacant *gadi* of Meywar. Maharana Futteli Singh was born in 1850 and has a son born on the 22nd of February 1884.

9. In compiling the biographies of the nobles of Meywar I have been very largely assisted by Kavi Raj Shyamal Das, whose own history, as written by Dr. Stratton, is annexed.

10. It is necessary to explain that the annual value of the estates, as entered at the end of each biography, is that given by the feudatories themselves in A.D. 1851; and the amount is in Udaipur currency, one rupee of which is equivalent to about twelve annas and six pies of imperial money. The estimate of income thus given is far below the actual amount realized. The total annual revenue of the twenty-first class nobles and the Rajahs of Shahpura and Bunera, as given by themselves in 1851, is Udaipur Rs. 8,66,395, equivalent to Rs. 6,87,615-1-3 of imperial currency, whilst the average income of the same estates at the present day is estimated at Udaipur Rs. 17,53,700, equivalent to Rs. 13,91,825-2 of imperial currency, or a little more than double the income as given by the holders of the estates 34 years ago. By the terms of their original "puttas" (grants), the Chiefs paid no tribute but served with their retainers when needed. Now they are supposed to pay "Chutoond" at the rate of two and a half annas per rupee of actual produce, and in addition to furnish one horse and one foot soldier for service for three months in the year within Meywar territory on each Rs. 1,000 of annual produce. Many attempts have been made to ascertain what the actual produce of each estate now is, but the

nobles, not unnaturally, object to any increase of payment by them and insist on the old valuation continuing as the basis of their pecuniary obligations to the estate. It is only in cases of minority when an estate comes under Darbar management, owing to the minor being left without natural guardians, that an opportunity arises for ascertaining the actual produce of any of these holdings. "Kaid" or fees paid on "Tulwar Bundhai," that is, investiture of fief, is supposed to be levied at the rate of twelve annas per rupee on the actual produce of one year, and the estate is exempt for that year from paying "Chutund."

INTRODUCTORY MEMORANDUM TO BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF THE CHIEF NOBLES AND LEADING PERSONS OF IMPORTANCE IN MEYWAR.

A brief introduction regarding the two classes, *noble* and *official*, will render more intelligible the position of the individuals to be noticed.

2. The *nobles* are a strong body, having large estates and privileges:

In the reign of Maharana Amara Singh II, between A.D. 1700 and 1716, they were arranged into—

Sixteen of first rank, besides the heir-apparent and the Maharana's nearest relatives who sit in Darbar below the sixteen.

Thirty-two of second next following *minor nobles*, very numerous.

The second and third classes need not be farther mentioned.

3. Though the first rank is still spoken of as *the sixteen*, there are now 20 nobles in it, besides the Maharana's nearer relatives, who number 7, so that the whole are 27 as follows :—

Of the Meywar family 18, *viz.* { 11 in the 16 or as now 20.
7 additional as near relatives.

Of other clans 9.

Those of the Meywar family are of the following divisions, classed according to their original branching off :—

Chundawats, 8—

1. Saloombar.
2. Deogarh.
3. Begum.
4. Amet.
5. Meja.
6. Bhainsrorgurh.
7. Korabar.
8. Asind.

From Chunda, eldest son of Maharana Lakha, Temp. A.D. 1373 and brother of Maharana Mokajji, Temp. A.D. 1398.

Sarangdevat—

1. Kanor.

{ From Sarangdeo, son of Aja, another son of Maharana Lakha, senior to Maharana Mokajji.

Shakhtawats, 2—

1. Bhindur.
2. Bansi.

{ From Shakat Singh, son of Maharana Udai Singh, Temp. A.D. 1541, and brother of Maharana Pratap Singh, Temp. A.D. 1572.

Rajas, 2—

1. Shahpurah
2. Bunera.

{ From Maharana Amar Singh, Temp. A.D. 1597.

{ From Maharana Raj Singh, Temp. A.D. 1654.

Havellis or houses, 2—

1. Karoi.
2. Bantas.

{ From Maharana Jai Singh, Temp. A.D. 1681.

Havelis or houses, 3—

1. Bagor.
2. Kirjali.
3. Seorati.

{ From Maharana Sangram Singh II, Temp. A.D. 1716.

Those of other clans are :—

Jhala Rajputs	3	Pawar	1
Chauhan	3	Rathor	1
Dandiya			1

The arrangement of the 16 (now 20), in regard to rank among themselves, is as liberal as the composition of the group, or the position assigned it in Darbar above the Maharana's nearest relatives, seeing that the first of "the sixteen" is the Jhala noble of Sadri, and the second and third are the Chauhans of Bedla and Kotharia, while the fourth is of the Meywar house, *viz.*, the Rawut of Saloombar who, as the head of a senior line of the family, and of its most numerous clan, the Chundawats, is in some respects the most powerful Chief in the territory.

4. The *leading officials* may best be traced by a reference to the State Courts or Councils, of which there are two, *viz.* :—

The Mahand Raj Sabha
and
The Mahkama Khass.

5. The *Mahand Raj Sabha*, which is the highest and is a Council of Direction and Revision, consists at present of—

The Maharana and 19 members, *viz.*,—

11 nobles,
8 officials.

The 11 nobles comprise—

Of the Meywar family 4
Of other clans 7

Those of the Meywar family are of the following divisions :—

Chundawat	1, <i>viz.</i> , Asind,
Haveli	1 „ Seorati,
Raja	1 „ Shahpura.
Ranavut	1 „ Kankarwara, a branch of Sanwar, 2nd rank noble.

Those of other clans are—

Chauhan	2 <i>viz.</i> , { Bedla, Parsoli.
Thala	2 „ { Delwara, Tana.
Dandiya	1 „ Sardargarh.
Rathor	2 „ Connections of Maharana, originally from Kishengarh State.

✓ The eight officials are at present the following :—

- (1) The Minister Rae Pana Lal, caste Rajasthani Oswal Mahajan.
- (2) The State annalist Kabi Raj Shamal Das, caste Charan.
- (3) The Sahiwalra or State scribe, office hereditary, Arjun Singh, caste Kayath.
- (4) The Maharana's Purohit, or priest, office hereditary, Padum Nath, caste Brahmin, in charge of daily record and of receptions of Sardars, &c.
- (5) The Hakim of Girwa, *i.e.*, the district around the capital, Mehta Takht Singh, caste Rajasthani Oswal Mahajan.
- (6) Officer in charge of Sayer or Customs Department, Pandit Brijnath, caste Brahmin.
- (7) Maharana's Private Secretary, Jani Makund Lal, caste Brahmin.
- (8) Secretary of the Council, Pandia Mohan Lal, caste Kashmiri Brahmin.

The first five above are men of the State whose families have been in service, in one position or another, for generations, and of two, *viz.*, Nos. 3 and 4, the particular office is hereditary in the same family.

The last three, who are all Brahmins, have been introduced within the last few years from outside Meywar.

6. The other Court, *viz.*, the Mahkama khass is a Board of Administration, conducting every Department, except the judicial, appeals and references in which go to the Mahand Raj Sabha, and it consists at present of—

The Maharana as Resident, and the Minister Rae Pana Lal, the latter of whom is of course the working member, and transacts all ordinary business himself.

7. The leading official class in Meywar is the *Mahajan*, but a local distinction has to be noted.

Ordinarily the term “Mahajan” (literally great man) is applied to bankers and merchants, and often is used as synonymous with banya, from the latter class engaging in these avocations.

But numbers in these parts who may be called *Rajasthani* Mahajans assert a Rajput origin, explaining that when their ancestors, many centuries ago, when caste distinctions were not so rigid as now, adopted Jainism, as whole towns are said to have done *en masse*, they relinquished the profession of arms for peaceful avocations, and so gradually acquired the designation of Mahajans. This Rajput descent is very different from that ascribed to the ordinary banya, who is of the Vaisya or third of the four main Hindu castes, while the Rajput belongs to the Kshatri or second, but it is claimed by many lines of Mahajans, as for instance by the family of the well known Ajmere Seth Rao Bahadur Mul Chund, and by that of the present Minister of Udaipur.

The latter is a Bachhawat Oswal Mahajan, the term "Oswal" implying the division of the caste or religion, while Balkhawat is the gotra, *i.e.*, the sept or family, and is thus explained, *viz.*, that when their ancestor Banbir Singh, Chauhan Rajput, was converted to Jainism in Sambat 1039, A.D. 983, he had two sons named Bachraj and Bacholar, from whom have descended respectively the Bachawat and Bachotra gotras or septs of Oswal Mahajans, just as in Rajput clans.

If this origin of such families is correct, it may help to explain traits at times exhibited in their history, which might not have been expected so much in classes regarding whom the common idea is that since their first rise to civilisation they had only followed the avocations of peace and never joined in the rougher struggles of war.

It may be noted that while Oswal Mahajans are a division of Jains, individuals of these Jain families have in late years sometimes adopted Saivite or Veshnavite Hinduism as their private religion, though still publicly classed with the majority of Oswals.

8. During the 60 years since our treaty with Meywar, there have including the present incumbent been seven Ministers, not all of the same family or gotra, but all Mahajans, sometimes latterly in association with a coadjutor or under a council, but most commonly alone and only under the Maharana.

Four of them including the present Minister have been of the same family though not in continuous sequence or as if hereditarily, but by individual appointment.

Up to Maharana Shambu Singh's minority, 20 years ago, when a council was appointed, the system was to have a single Pradhan or Prime Minister, who, though often changed, yet while in power conducted the administration and appointed the District Officers, &c., with little check so long as he brought in the revenue.

Since the period just mentioned, the title of "Pradhan," though continued during employment for one or two who had previously received it, has not been conferred afresh on any new individual, as for example on the present Minister.

Under the modern system also of having councils during minorities, and of the Maharanas, when of age, reserving to themselves more or less of the higher powers of sanction and appointment, the office of Minister has not now the same almost unchecked authority as formerly.

Naturally under the former system, and with a predominant official class, most of the district appointments of all grades have been among that class; and local officers have within their districts had almost entire authority, like the old Pradhans at the capital, so long as they sent in a quota of revenue.

A few officers of other classes, or from outside Meywar, have in late years been appointed, and the Revenue Survey now in progress will give the Darbar information and power of control over the districts never before at its command.

But notwithstanding modern limitations of authority, it may be understood that the Minister, as the head of a strong and universally ramified official class, hereditary in employment, if not individually so in particular offices, is still possessed of great power.

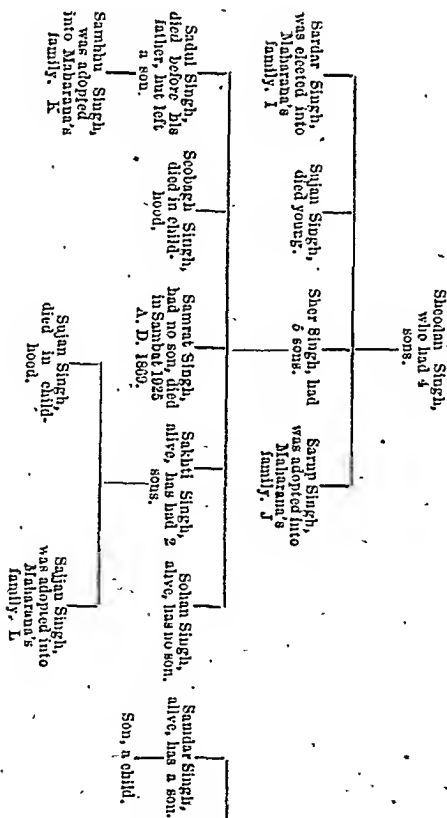
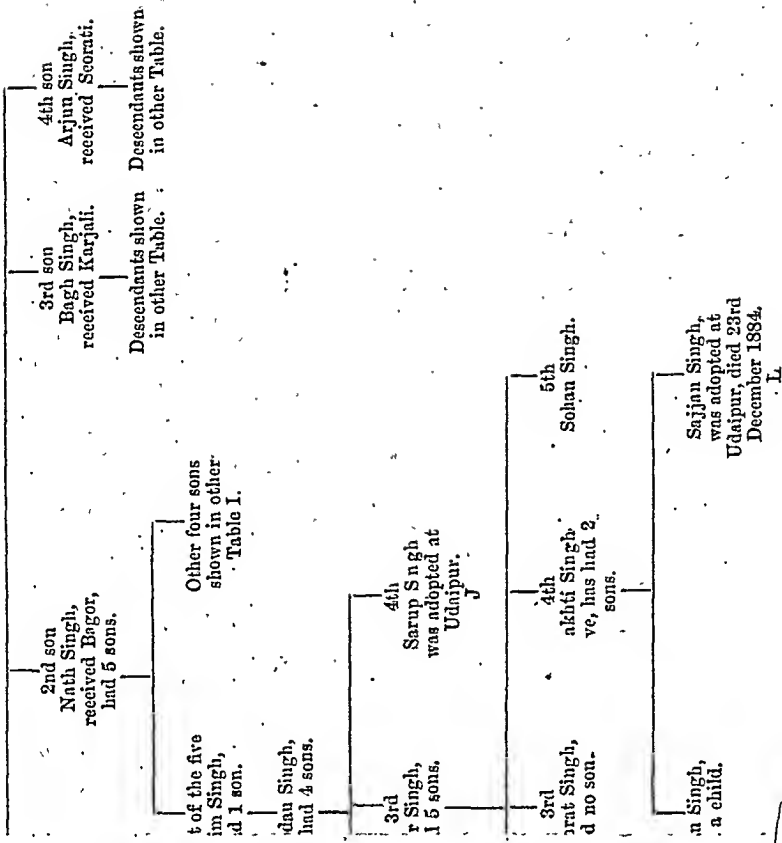
9. To the foregoing introduction is now appended biographical notes of the following :—

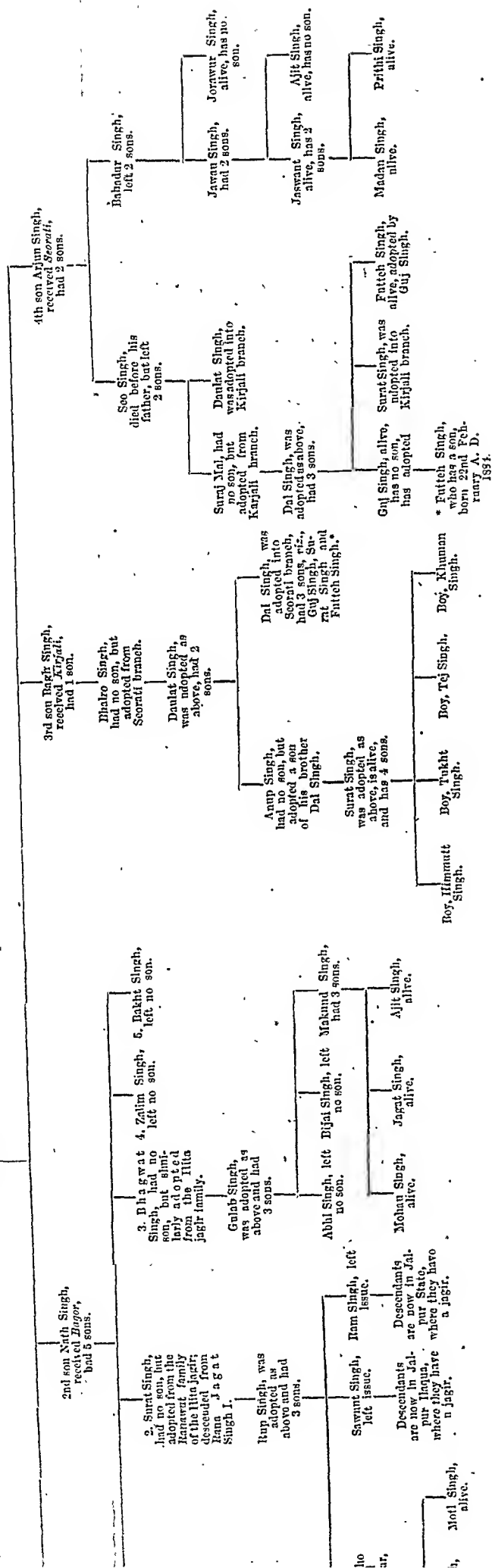
A.—NOBLES.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. The Rawat of Saloombur, | 11. The Rawut of Amat, |
| 2. The Rao of Bedla, | 12. The Rawut of Meja, |
| 3. The Raj of Delwara, | 13. The Raj of Gogunda, |
| 4. The Rawut of Asind, | 14. The Rawut of Kanor, |
| 5. The Maharaj of Bhindar, | 15. The Thakur of Bednor, |
| 6. The Raj of Sadri, | 16. The Rawut of Bansi, |
| 7. The Rawat of Kotharia, | 17. The Rawut of Bhainsrorgurh, |
| 8. The Rao of Bijholia, | 18. The Rao of Parsoli, |
| 9. The Rawut of Deogurh, | 19. The Rawut of Korabir, |
| 10. The Rawut of Begum, | 20. The Thakur of Sirdargurh. |

B.—OFFICIALS.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Rai Pana Lal, | 2. Kabi Raj Shamaldas, |
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(Sd.) C. K. M. WALTER, Colonel,
Resident, Myanmar.

NOTES ON THE THREE HAVELIS OR HOUSES OF BAGOR, KIRJALI, AND SEORATI.

BAGOR.

The Bagor family are direct descendants of Maharana Sangram Singh II, who ruled Meywar from A.D. 1711 to A.D. 1734, and who had four sons, the eldest of whom Jagat Singh II succeeded to the *gadi* of Meywar, whilst the second son Nath Singh received Bagor. Nath Singh was murdered in A.D. 1764 (under orders, it is said, of his uncle Maharana Ursi Singh or Arsiji) by Rawut Lal Singh, of Bhainsrorgarh. Nath Singh's eldest son Bhim Singh, whom the then Rawut of Saloombar and other nobles desired to make Maharana by force, poisoned himself at Chitor, in order, it is said, to show his loyalty; his son Sheo Dan Singh succeeded him and had four sons, the eldest of whom Sirdar Singh followed Maharana Jowan Singh as Ruler of Meywar, the second son Sujjan Singh died in childhood, and the third Sher Singh became Master of Bagor.

Sher Singh had five sons, Sardul Singh, who died before his father but left a son Shambu Singh, who held Bagor for two years in succession to his grandfather Sher Singh, and then succeeded Maharana Sarup Singh on the *gadi* of Meywar. Sobhag Singh died in childhood; the third Samrath Singh succeeded Shambu Singh at Bagor, but died without issue. On Samrath Singh's death, Shukh Singh should have got Bagor, but Sohun Singh, his younger brother, was placed in possession. On the death of Maharana Shambu Singh in A.D. 1874 and succession of Sujjan Singh, the son of Maharaj Shukh Singh, Sohun Singh, rebelled, claimed to be the rightful heir to the *gadi*, and assumed a defiant attitude at Bagor. A force was sent against him, and he was deported to Benares. But after a time, the late Maharana Sujjan Singh, with the sanction of the British Government, recalled him from Benares and gave him a life income of Rs. 10,000 per annum for his support, but only after he had signed a formal document renouncing all claim to the *gadi* of Meywar and to the possession of Bagor. The late Maharana Sujjan Singh gave Bagor to his father, the present possessor, Maharaj Shukh Singh. Sohun Singh has no son, and as both the sons of Maharaj Shukh Singh are dead, the Bagor line is therefore almost extinct.

Bagor is situated on the right bank of the Kotari River, 67 miles to the north-east of Udaipore and 17 miles from Mandel, a station on the Rajputana-Malwa Railway.

KIRJALI.

This estate belongs to the Ranawut descendants of Maharana Sangram Singh the Second through his third son Bagh Singh. Bagh Singh is described by the native historian of Meywar as "a man of courage and letters and one skilled in arts." He gained renown by his bravery when Madho Rao Scindia attacked Udaipore in A.D. 1768. He had a son Bhairaoa Singh, but he was supposed to have been a follower of the Black Arts, and it is said was made away with by order of Maharana Bhim Singh. After Bhairaoa Singh came Dowlut Singh, adopted from the Seorati branch. Dowlut Singh had two sons, Anup Singh and Dal Singh; the first had no male issue but adopted Surat Singh, the second son of Dal Singh, who had gone by adoption to the Seorati branch. Maharaj Surat Singh has four sons—(1) Himmutt Singh, aged 13; (2) Shukh Singh, aged 12; (3) Tej Singh, aged 9; and (4) Khuman Singh, aged 5. The Maharaj is an unlettered man himself and of a curious disposition; his sons are receiving little or no education, and will, it is feared, grow up as ignorant as their father. The latter has over and over again been urged to send the boys, or at least the two eldest, to the Mayo College at Ajmere for instruction, but he turns a deaf ear to advice in all such matters.

SEORATI.

[This estate belongs to the Ranawut division of the Maharana's brotherhood. The family are descended from Maharana Sangram Singh the Second by his

fourth son Arjun Singh, who received the estate of Seorati. Arjun Singh did good service to Maharana Bhim Singh and is said to have afforded him protection at the time of the Mahratta invasion. He was a brave man and one of piety and learning. He took up his abode in the sacred city of Benares and died there. Arjun Singh had two sons, Sheo Singh and Bahadur Singh; the former died in his father's lifetime, but left two sons Suruj Mull and Dowlut Singh. Suruj Mull succeeded his grandfather at Seorati, and Dowlut Singh was adopted into the Kirjali branch of the family, descendants of Maharana Sangram Singh the Second's third son Bagh Singh.

When Suruj Mull died without issue, he was succeeded in Seorati by Dal Singh, the second son of Dowlut Singh. Dal Singh had three sons, 1st, Maharaj Guj Singh, the present owner of Seorati; 2nd, Maharaj Surut Singh, who was adopted into Kirjali; and 3rd, Futtéh Singh, who was unanimously elected Maharana of Meywar on the death of the late Maharana in December 1884. Maharaj Guj Singh is a most intelligent man; he is a member of the Mahad Raj Sabha and is much respected by all classes. He has had one daughter who died. There is no male issue.

RAJA DHIRAJ NAHAR SINGH OF SHAHPURA.

The estate of Shahpura belongs to the Sujan Sinhat Ranawut branch of the Maharana's brotherhood. The present Raja Dhiraj Nahar Singh is aged 28 years, and holds the second place among the nobles who sit in front of the *gadi*. The ancestor of this family was Suraj Mull, the third son of Maharana Amar Singh, who became ruler of Meywar in A.D. 1597. Prince Khurram, afterwards the Emperor Shah Jahan, bestowed on Suraj Mull the title of "Raja" in Sambat 1671 (A.D. 1614) on the occasion of his (the Prince's) meeting with Maharana Amar Singh. Again, Shah Jahan on succeeding to the throne conferred on Sujan Singh, Suraj Mull's son, the distinction of "Derh Hazari," made him a commander of 1,000 horse and granted him the patta (title deeds) of Phulia in jagir, detaching it from Meywar.]

When the armies of Dara, the son of Shah Jahan, were opposed to each other at Fatehabad, near Ujein in Malwa, Sujan Singh was with the army of Dara and was killed whilst gallantly fighting. His elder son Fateh Singh* did not attend the Court at Delhi, but the younger, Daulat Singh, presented himself in the Darbar of Aurungzeb, who granted him his father's (Sujan Singh) rank and title and the patta of Phulia as well. In the civil war that broke out in 1768 A.D. in Meywar on an attempt being made by some of the Sardars to depose Maharana Uri Singh or Ursiji and set up a youth named Rutna Singh as ruler, the then Chief of Shahpura, Umed Singh by name, on whom the parganah of Kachola of Meywar had been bestowed, was killed fighting gallantly with the forces of the Rana at Ujein against Madhoji Scindia, who had espoused the cause of the pretender.

On the occasion of a band of dakaits attacking Udaipur, Raja Amar Singh of Kachola followed in pursuit, overtook the plunderers beyond Gogunda, slew several of them and recovered the plundered property; and in recognition of this service, the then Maharana Bhim Singh bestowed on him the title of "Raja Dhiraj."

The estate of Shahpura comprises both British and Meywar territory. Formerly the patta of Phulia (the British portion of the estate) was under the Commissionership of Ajmere, but in A.D. 1869 it was brought under the political supervision of the Political Agent, Haraoti and Tonk.

When the late Raja Dhiraj Lachman Singh died in 1869 without male issue, an attempt was made to place Ram Singh, son of Thakur Gambhir Singh, of Bishnia on the *gadi*, but, after enquiry, Nahar Singh, son of Bulwunt Singh, Thakur of Dhanop and a near relative of Raja Dhiraj Umed Singh's younger son Zalim Singh, was installed and Ram Singh's claim was rejected.

The present Rajah Dhiraj Nahar Singh has two sons; the elder, Umed Singh, is seven years old, and the younger, four years. Nahar Singh is an intelligent young fellow and is a member of the Mahad Raj Sabha or Council of State of Meywar.

Genealogical Tree of the Shahpura Family.

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) Suraj Mallji, younger son of Maharana Amar Singh I, got the title of "Raja." | (4) Bharat Singh. |
| (2) Sujan Singh, son of Suraj Mall, got the fief of Phulia containing 84 villages from Shah Jehan. | (5) Umed Singh, had a son Adat Singh, who died in his father's lifetime. |
| (3) Daulat Singh—he was the third son of Sujan Singh, went to the Court of Alamgir and obtained the title of "Raja" with 84 villages of Phulia; the descendants of the eldest son of Sujan Singh, named Fateh Singh, are now in Gangas and Barshalyabas. Sujan Singh had altogether six sons. | (6) Run Singh, son of Adat Singh. |
| | (7) Bhim Singh. |
| | (8) Amar Singh. |
| | (9) Madho Singh. |
| | (10) Jagat Singh. |
| | (11) Lachman Singh. |
| | (12) Nahar Singh, the present Raja Dhiraj. |

* The Jagirdars of Barshalyabas are his descendants.

RAJA OF BUNERA.

The original founder of this family was Bhim Singh, the brother of Maharana Jey Singh, who ruled in Meywar from A. D. 1681 to A. D. 1699. According to Tod, a few hours only intervened between the entrance of Jey Singh into the world and that of Bhim Singh. Bhim Singh is said to have been the elder, but the father, Rana Raj Singh, selected Jey Singh as the eldest born. The cause of Jey Singh being thus selected as the eldest born is thus described by the native historian of Meywar :—Maharana Raj Singh was asleep when the messengers announcing the birth of two sons entered his apartment. The man bringing the news of Jey Singh's birth came into the room by the door nearest to the Maharana's feet, whilst he who brought the tidings of Bhim Singh's advent into the world advanced by a door behind where the father of both was lying asleep. As his eyes opened they fell on the former news-bearer, who at once announced the intelligence he had brought, whilst the other messenger was second with his news. The Maharana at once said, he is the elder of whose birth the tidings first fell on my ear, the other is the younger son. The Maharana had then, however, little idea of either succeeding him on the *gadi*, as he had two sons then alive, the first, Sultan Singh, heir to the *gadi*, the second, Sardar Singh ; but it so happened that after some time both died, and thus Jey Singh, who from the first had been recognized as the elder born, became the heir-apparent; and subsequently, on the death of his father, succeeded to the *gadi*. On the succession of Jey Singh, Bhim Singh was still an adherent of his brother, but when a treaty was concluded between Alamgir and Jey Singh in Sambat 1738, A. D. 1682, Bhim Singh went with his sons in the same year to the Court of Alamgir at Ajmere. The author of "Masir-i-Alamgir" writes thus "M. A. H. 1902 on the 12th of Shaban:" (corresponding with the Sambat year 1738 Bhadum Sud 14th, July or August A. D. 1682) "Bhim Singh, son of the late Maharana Raj Singh and brother of the present Rana Jey Singh, presented himself at Ajmere." This proves that Bhim Singh went to the Court of Alamgir ten months after Maharana Raj Singh's death and two months after the conclusion of the treaty between Jey Singh and Alamgir. As regards Bhim Singh's death the same author writes in his book: "On the 27th Safar A. H. 1106" (corresponding with A. D. 1695) "Raja Bhim Singh, who had a munsub of five thousand, left this world in Zillah Hyderabad, Golconda, Deccan."

Bhim Singh's eldest son Ajab Singh did not succeed to his father's honors, but on the recommendation of Maharana Umara Singh, Bhim Singh's second son Suraj Mall was given the fief of Buncra and a munsub.

In such esteem did the Emperor hold the family that the son of Suraj Mull received the name of Sultan. He was succeeded by Sardar Singh, who built the fort of Bunera in A.D. 1750. In A.D. 1756 Umed Singh, Raja Dhiraj of Shahpura, seized Bunera and Sardar Singh fled to his ancestral home at Udaipur and died there. Maharana Raj Singh II sent a force to Buncra, recovered it from Shahpura, and installed the son of Sardar Singh (Raja Rai Singh) as his feudatory, placing him on the same footing as the other nobles, in Meywar, and taking Rs. 50,000 as succession fee from him. In this position we found Bunera when the treaty of 1818 was made with Meywar. It was one of the fiefships included by Captain Tod in the arrangement made during Maharana Bhim Singh's rule for the commutation of half the feudal service into "chutoond" or tribute. Bunera being of the princely stock of Meywar, enjoys a few privileges in excess of the other nobles, the chief being that on the death of a Raja his heir, instead of coming to Udaipur to go through the ceremony of "Tulwar Bundhai," or girding on the sword, is entitled to have the sword sent with due honor to Bunera—and afterwards he comes to the capital to be installed by the Maharana. On the death of the last Raja Sungram Singh without issue, the Bunera people put the present Raja Gobind Singh in possession of Bunera independently of sanction from the Udaipur Darbar, and the British Government interposed in 1855 to support the rights of the then Maharana, and a British force was under orders to coerce Bunera, when the rebellious noble submitted. As a punishment for his contumacy, Gobind Singh had to proceed to Udaipur without having first received the sword, had to himself ask pardon in person from Maharana

Sarup Singh (the then ruler), pay a fine of Rs. 21,000 and give a bond that no Bunera succession would be considered valid without the sanction of the Darbar being first obtained. Raja Gobind Singh is now 50 years of age. He has two sons, the eldest Akhey Singh,* aged 17, and the youngest Ram Singh aged 13 years. The estate is a large one. Bunera is situated about 90 miles from Udaipur; four miles to the right of the high road leading from Nimach to Nasirabad, twelve miles from Bhilwara, and seven from Mandel, both stations on the Rajputana-Malwa line of railway. The Raja's palace is one of the most imposing looking edifices of its kind in the State. The town contains some 2,500 houses, is walled, with a fort on the hill at an elevation of 1903 feet above sea level. The estate consists of 101 villages with an estimated annual revenue of Rs. 55,202. The amount of "chutoond" paid is Rs. 6,124; population 28,724.

Genealogical Tree of the Bunera Family.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (1) Raja Bhim Singhji. | (7) Raja Hamir Singhji. |
| (2) „ Ajab Singhji. | (8) „ Bhim Singhji II. |
| (3) „ Suraj Mal. | (9) „ Oodey Singhji. |
| (4) „ Sultan Singhji. | (10) „ Sangram Singhji. |
| (5) „ Sardar Singhji. | (11) „ Govind Singhji, the present |
| (6) „ Rai Singhji. | Rajah. |

* Married a second time to a grand-daughter of the Thakur of Bednor, by whom he has lately had a daughter.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF FIRST CLASS NOBLES.

I.—BARI SADRI.

The ancestors of the family of the Jhala Raj of Sadri were two brothers Ujja and Sujja, sons of the Raja Rajdhar of Halwad, in the peninsula of Kathiawar, who, owing to family feuds, left the paternal home and came to Meywar in A. D. 1507 when Rana Rae Mull was ruler of the State. They lent their swords to Meywar and are said to have distinguished themselves in several fights. At the famous battle of Biana in A.D. 1528, when Rana Sanga, the successor of Rai Mull, desperately wounded, was obliged to retreat from the field, the Sardars seated Ujja on the Rana's elephant with all the royal insignia, in order to give confidence to the army and prevent the fact of Rana Sanga's departure from the field becoming known. Ujja was slain, and from that time the Jhala Rajs of Sadri have held the first rank amongst the feudatories and been allowed to use the regal ensigns of Meywar.*

Sujja Jhala and a son of Ujja named Singhji were both killed at Chitor when it was besieged by Bahadur Shah of Guzerat during the reign of Maharana Bikramajit in A. D. 1535.

Haridas Jhala distinguished himself in several battles; this is the same Haridas mentioned by the Emperor Jehangir as the Chief who, with Shubh Kurun Pauer, was sent in A. D. 1616 by Rana Umra to his son Kurrum to sue for peace.

The ruling Chiefs of Meywar have given their daughters in marriage to the Jhala Rajs of Sadri.

The present Chief is Raj Rai Singh, aged about 24; he was the nephew of the last Chief, by whom he was adopted, and at whose death in A. D. 1883 he succeeded to the estate.

Raj Rai Singh has had one son who died at a very early age. The present Raj is the 17th in descent from Raj Ujja, and the present Delwara Raj, the 14th in descent from Raj Sujja, so that the two families are closely united.

Bari Sadri is distant about 50 miles to the east of Udaipur and 12 miles from the Udaipur-Nimach road.

The estate comprises 96 villages of the annual value of Rs. 16,309;† the amount of "chutoond" paid annually to the Darbar is Rs. 1,024 and the population is calculated to be 14,971.

Genealogical Tree of the Sadri Family.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| (1) Raj Ujja or Ajja. | (10) Raj Chandrasenji. |
| (2) „ Singhji. | (11) „ Kirti Singhji. |
| (3) „ Asaji. | (12) „ Rai Singhji II. |
| (4) „ Surtanji. | (13) „ Surtan Singhji III. |
| (5) „ Bidaji. | (14) „ Chundun Singhji. |
| (6) „ Dedaji. | (15) „ Kirti Singhji II.† |
| (7) „ Haridasji. | (16) „ Shiva Singhji. |
| (8) „ Rai Singhji. | (17) „ Rai Singhji III, present Raj of |
| (9) „ Surtanji II. | Bari Sadri. |

II.—BEDLA.

The ancestor of the Rao of Bedla, Chandra Bhanji, a descendant of Pirthi Raj, the last Hindu Emperor of Delhi and Ajmere, came to Meywar in the time of Maharana Sanga in Sambat 1584, corresponding with A.D. 1528, and was killed fighting under the banner of Meywar in the famous battle with the Emperor Baber in the same year at Byana. Chandra Bhan's descendant, Rao Samarsi, displayed great bravery at Chitor in several battles. Rao Baluji, a descendant of Samarsi, received from Maharana Amar Singh the district of Begum and Rattangarh, as described in the annals of the Rawut of Begum. This took place in A.D. 1616. Two or three years later Begum was restored to

* The incident above noted is said, but erroneously by Tod, to have taken place at the battle of Huldighat in the time of Maharana Pratap Singh.

† See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

‡ Adopted from Delwara, Chundun Singh having no family.

Rawut Megh Singh, and Baluji was given the jagir of Gemgrar, with Bedla, close to Udaipur, for a residence. This estate is still held by Baluji's descendants, Baluji's son, Ram Chundji, visited the Courts of Jehangir and Shahjehan on several occasions in company with Prince Jagat Singh and his son Prince Raj Singh (both of whom afterwards became Maharanas of Meywar) and received khilats, horses, jewels and armour from the Emperor. Rao Ram Chund had two sons, the elder Sabal Singh and the younger Keshri Singh. Sabal Singh fought several battles with the army of Maharana Raj Singh against Alamgir, and succeeded to Bedla, whilst Keshri Singh was made Rao of Parsoli, as has been described under head of Parsoli. A daughter of Rao Ram Chund was married to Maharana Jey Singh. Sabal Singh was succeeded by his son Sultan Singh and Rao Bukht Singh, (1) the son of Sultan Singh was one of the chief nobles at the Court of Maharana Amar Singh II. A daughter of Rao Bukht Singh (1) became the wife of Maharana Amar Singh II, and Maharana Sangram Singh II was the offspring of this marriage. Rao Bukht Singh was succeeded by Ram Chund II and Ram Chund by Rao Pertab Singh. Pertab Singh having no male issue adopted Keshri Singh, a son of Rao Raghunath Singh of Parsoli, who had a son Rao Bukht Singh II, who died at the age of 63 in A.D. 1880.

Rao Bukht Singh was a man of remarkable character, noted for his high integrity and ability and for loyalty to the best interests of the Maharana as well as to the British Government. He was a trusted adviser of the late Maharanas Surup Singh and Shimbhu Singh, and had the care of the European families, who, during the mutiny of 1857, came to Udaipur and obtained a hospitable home in the Jugmundir Island Palace, in which Shah Jahan, when Prince Kurram, and in trouble with his father Jehangir, had been sheltered above two centuries before. In recognition of his distinguished service and character the Government of India conferred on Rao Bukht Singh a sword of honor after the mutinies, the title of "Rao Bahadur" at the Imperial Assemblage in 1877, and the Companionship of the Indian Empire on this Order being instituted in 1878. He was succeeded by his son Rao Tukht Singh, now about 40 years of age, who has four sons—

- (1) Karan Singh, aged 19, educated at the Mayo College, Ajmere.
- (2) Raj Singh, aged 13.
- (3) Rup Singh, also aged 13 by another wife.
- (4) Gobind Singh, aged 4.

The present Rao is a member of the "Mahad Raj Sabha." He ranks second amongst the chief nobles of Meywar. His residence, Bedla, is close to the capital, whilst Gungrar and his other jagir villages are situated on the Rajputana-Malwa line of railway eleven miles from Chitor.

The estate comprises 98 villages of the annual value of Udaipur Rs. 33,960.* The Rao pays Rs. 5,102 annually as "chutoond" to the Darbar. The population of the estate is said to be 19,634.

Genealogical Tree of the Bedla Family.

(1) Rao Chandra Bhanji.	(11) Rao Ram Chandra, 1st.
(2) " Samarsi.	(12) " Sabal Singhji.
(3) " Bhikhuji.	(13) " Sultan Singhji.
(4) " Bhimsenji.	(14) " Bakht Singhji.
(5) " Devi Senji.	(15) " Ram Chandraji, 2nd.
(6) " Rup Senji.	(16) " Pratap Singhji.
(7) " Delpat Senji.	(17) " Keshri Singhji.
(8) " Sangram Singhji.	(18) " Bahadur Bakht Singhji,
(9) " Pratap Singhji.	2nd.
(10) " Baluji.	(19) " Takht Singhji, the present
	Rao.

III.—KOTHARIA.

The Rawuts of Kotharia are of the Chohan clan of Rajputs and descendants of the Great Prithi Raj, the Chohan King of Delhi.

The immediate ancestor of the family is said to have been Kurhji who was the uncle of Pirthi Raj. When Rana Sanga led the Rajputs against the

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

Emperor Baber, Manak Chund, Chohan, attacked the vanguard of the Emperor's army, and succeeded in carrying off the royal red "Pesh Khaimas," or advance tents, which were pitched near Agra, and presented them to the Rana, who was then at Ranthambhor. Ever since then the tents of the Ranas of Meywar have been of the royal red colour. This same Manak Chund was afterwards killed at the battle of Byana. Another ancestor of this family was killed fighting bravely when Akbar attacked and captured Chitor in A.D. 1568. And during the reign of Maharana Raj Singh in A.D. 1680-81, Rawut Rook-mangadji Chohan, attacked the forces of the Emperor Aurungzeb; and his son Udey Bhan was sent several times from the Meywar Darbar to the Court of that Emperor. The present Rawut is named Keshri Singh and is 38 years of age. He has no issue.

The Rawuts of Kotharia hold the third place amongst the nobles of Meywar.

Kotharia is situated on the right bank of the Banas river, about 30 miles north-north-west of Udaipur.

There are fifty villages in the estate, of the annual value of Rs. 23,615.* The amount of "chutoond" paid annually by the Rawut to the Darbar is Rs. 1,502, and the population is estimated at 8,810.

Genealogical Tree of the Kotharia Family.

(1) Rawut Manak Chundji.	(10) Rawut Udai Bhanji.
(2) " Sarung Deoji.	(11) " Deo Bhanji.
(3) " Jai Palji.	(12) " Budh Singhji.
(4) " Khanji.	(13) " Futteh Singhji.
(5) " Tathar Khanji.	(14) " Bijey Singhji.
(6) " Dharmangadji.	(15) " Mokham Singhji.
(7) " Sahib Khanji.	(16) " Jodh Singhji.
(8) " Pirthi Rajji.	(17) " Sangram Singhji.
(9) " Rukmangadji.	(18) " Keshri Singhji.

IV.—SALUMBAR.

The Rawut of Salumbar is the head of the Chondawut branch of the Maharana's family, being descended from Maharana Lakha's eldest son Chonda, who some time between A.D. 1373 and 1398 gave up to his younger brother Mokalji his right to the succession to the *gadi* of Meywar.

Chonda's grandson Ratan Singh fell fighting gallantly as did so many other Meywar nobles, in the battle of Byana against the Emperor Baber. His eldest son Rawut Saven Das fell at the siege of Chitor by the Emperor Akbar, whilst defending the Suruj Pol gate of the fort in 1568. It was this Saven Das who saved the life of Sukht Singh, the second son of Maharana Udey Singh, when he was ordered by his father to be killed as narrated in the annals of the Bhindar family. Rawut Saven Das' son was killed at the same time as his father, and his younger brother Khangaji was adopted as his successor. One Khanghaji's eldest son Kishen Das was bestowed the fief of Salumbar and since then the family have been called Kishnawuts. Jeyt Singh, the son of Kishen Das, was killed at Untala fighting with the army of Maharana Amar Singh against the Emperor Jehangir. Salumbar was taken away from Raghu-nath Singh, great-grandson of Jeyt Singh, and made over to Chohan Keshri Singh of Parsoli, but was restored by Maharana Jey Singh three generations afterwards in the person of Kishnawut Keshri Singh, great-grandson of Roghu-nath Singh. Keshri Singh was succeeded by his son Kuvera Singh and Kuvera Singh by his son Jeyth Singh II, who was killed at the town of Nagor in Marwar by some of Appaji Sindia's men when that Chief was treacherously murdered at Nagor in A.D. 1755. Jeyth Singh II having no issue was succeeded by his brother Jodh Singh, who was compelled by Maharana Ursi to eat a pân leaf containing poison, given him on taking leave of his Chief. Jodh Singh obeyed the order, but in doing so observed—"My compliance will cost you and your family dear." Maharana Ursi was afterwards murdered by the Bundi Prince, it is supposed, at the instigation of the nobles of Meywar, who, it is said, hated their ruler.

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

Pahar Singh, Jodh Singh's son, was killed at the battle of Ujein fighting against the Mahrattas. He, having no issue, was succeeded by his uncle Bhim Singh, the younger brother of Jodh Singh. Bhim Singh and the Rathore Chief of Bednor are said by Tod to have been the only nobles of high rank who defended their prinsee and capital when it was besieged by the Mahrattas. Bhim Singh was succeeded by Bhowani Singh, Bhowani Singh by Pudma Singh, Pudma Singh by Keshri Singh II; Keshri Singh II had no issue and adopted the present Rawut Jodh Singh from Bumbhora. The adoption was a wrong one, the succession should have come from Bhadesur; but the wrong then done has been righted now by Rawut Jodh Singh, who has no issue, having adopted Tej Singh, son of Rawut Bhopal Singh of Bhadesur. Tej Singh is about 13 years of age.

When Chonda surrendered his right to the *gadi* of Meywar to his younger brother Mokajji, he stipulated that he (Chonda) and his chief representative ever after him should be the hereditary first Councillor of the *gadi* with the right of prefixing his sign manual, a spear, to all State title deeds, and on occasion of the Maharana's absence from the capital, should be the guardian of his Chief's home. These arrangements have practically fallen into desuetude, as the Rawut generally resides at Salumbar. Thus the spear mark is now fixed by the hereditary "Sahi Wala" or State scribe, and in ordinary State business the Rawut seldom troubles himself or is troubled. But his position as the head of the senior line and of the most numerous faction of the brotherhood necessarily gives the Salumbar Chief weight in dynastie matters and those affecting Meywar as a State. The present Rawut Jodh Singh is above 50 years of age. Some time ago he suffered from disease in one eye, and as this was neglected it affected the other, and he is now almost entirely blind.

Salumbar lies about 30 miles to the south of Udaipur. The town contains some 2,500 houses, and is surrounded by a masonry wall with a tolerably-sized artificial lake on the west, overlooked by the Rawut's palace.

The town is protected on the north by lofty and picturesque hills, one of which immediately overlooking it, is surmounted by a fort and out-works still in fairly good repair. The old fortifications on the summit of the hill are now falling into decay, but the view thence well repays a visit. To the north lies the Jey Samundra Lake, to the east and west extend range upon range of hills; and to the south-east the scarped hill of Dholagarh (so named from "Dhola," white, owing to the white quartz of which it is composed) glistens in the sun.

The Salumbar estate consists of 160 villages of the annual value of Rs. 98,755.* The Rawut does not pay "chutoond" to the Darbar. The population is said to be 43,372, but as Bhils predominate in this State the numbers are probably more.

The Salumbar line arising from Maharana Lakha.

(1) Rawut Chondoji.	(12) Rawut Kandholji II.	
(2) " Kandhalji.	(13) " Keshri Singhji (Salumbar restored).	
(3) " Rutna Singhji.	(14) " Kuber Singhji.	
(4) " Saven Dasji.	(15) " Jait Singhji II.	
(5) " Khangharji.	(16) " Jodh Singhji.	
(6) " Kishen Dasji (received Salumbar).	(17) " Pahar Singhji.	
(7) " Jait Singhji.	(18) " Bhim Singhji.	
(8) " Man Singhji.	(19) " Bhowani Singhji.	
(9) " Pirthi Rajji.	(20) " Pudma Singhji.	
(10) " Roghunath Singhji (lost Salumbar).	(21) " Keshri Singhji II.	
(11) " Rutna Singhji II.	(22) " Jodha Singhji II, present Rawut, who has no issue, but has adopted Tej Singh, son of Rawut Bhopal Singh of Bhadesur.	

V.—BIJHOLIA.

The Rao of Bijholia, the fifth in rank amongst the nobles of Meywar, is a Puar of the ancient stock of Dhar. This family, originally Raos of Jugner, came to Meywar in the time of Rana Sanga or Sangram Singh I,

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

who ascended the *gadi* of Meywar in A.D. 1509. The ancestor of the family was Rao Asoka, whose daughter was given in marriage to Rana Sangram Singh. A grand-daughter of Asoka was also married to the famous Rana Pertaf; one of the descendants of Asoka, named Indra Bhan, gave his daughter in marriage to Maharana Raj Singh, and Maharana Jai Singhji was the offspring of this union.

Fourthly, in A. D. 1814, Amar Singh, the son of Maharana Bheem Singh, married the daughter of Keshava Das II, Rao of Bijholia.

Rao Shabh Karan in A.D. 1613 or 1614 accompanied Jhalla Haridas to the Court of Prince Khurram and his father, the Emperor Jehangir. In A.D. 1693 during the reign of Maharana Joy Singji, discord arose between him and his son Umra, and many of the nobles of Meywar espoused the side of the son; but amongst the faithful was Rao Beri Sal, an uncle by marriage of the Maharana, and he with a few others succeeded in making peace between father and son. Bijholia was restored to Rao Mandhata by Maharana Juggut Singh II., A.D. 1734 to A.D. 1752, on his return to Meywar; the estate was originally granted with other jaghires to Asoka. In Maharana Uri Singhji or Ursiji's time, Rao Mandhata's son Shubh Kurrun (2) fought against the forces of Madho Rao Scindiah at Oojein in A. D. 1768 and was wounded; for his bravery on that occasion he received from his Chief the title of "Siwai," and his son Rao Siwai Keshava Das fought against the Mahrattas, who had taken Bijholia and recovered it.

Keshava Das had one son Shiva Singh, who died during his father's lifetime, leaving three sons, (1) Girdhar Das, (2) Nathji, and (3) Govind Das. The first died whilst his grand-father was alive; the second, the rightful heir, was passed over by his grand-father who nominated Govind Das his successor.

The old Rao Siwai Keshava Das died in 1856 A.D., and feuds arose between the two brothers regarding the succession, but the party of Rao Govind Das was the stronger, and he obtained the jaghire of Bijholia, which he has held ever since. He is now said to be 55 years of age. He has had two sons, one Beri Sal, who died at the age of 16 or 17, and the other Kishen Singh, who is now in his fourteenth year. Bijholia lies on the eastern frontier of Meywar and is distant from the capital and to the north-east of it about 100 miles. The estate comprises 85 villages of the annual value of Rs. 27,830.* The amount of "chutoond" paid to the Darbar by the Rao is Rs. 3,576, and the population at the census taken in 1881 was 12,140.

Genealogical Tree of-Bijholia.

(1) Rao Asokaji.	(8) Rao Beri Sal.
(2) „ Sujjan Singhji.	(9) „ Durjan Sal.
(3) „ Mamar Khanji.	(10) „ Vikramaditia.
(4) „ Dungar Singhji.	(11) „ Mandhataji.
(5) „ Shubh Karanji.	(12) „ Siwai Shubh Karan II.
(6) „ Keshava Dasji.	(13) „ „ Keshava Das II.
(7) „ Indra Bhan.	(14) „ „ Govind Das, present Rao, who has one son, Kishen Singh.

VI.—DEOGURH.

The family of the Rawut of Deogurh trace their descent from Kandhal, son of Chanda and grandson of Maharana Lakha. Maharana Jey Singh bestowed the fief of Deogurh on Rawut Dwarkadas in A.D. 1692; his son Rawut Sangram Singh built a wall round and otherwise fortified Deogurh, and was given additional jaghires by Maharana Amara Singh as a reward for his bravery in various battles. The next Rawut, Jeswunt Singh, son of Sangram Singh, took the part of Rutna Singh, who was declared to be the posthumous son of Maharana Raj Singh, against the then Maharana Ursi, and joined the Mahrattas who espoused the cause of the pretender. In consequence he was expelled from Deogurh. But after a time, aided by the political disorders which then prevailed, and by the murder of Maharana Ursiji, Rawut Jeswunt Singh succeeded in returning to Deogurh.

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

The present Rawut Krishna Singh is a direct descendant of Jeswunt Singh. He is of the Chandawut clan of Rajputs and holds the sixth * place amongst the nobles of Meywar. He has one son, Jeswunt Singh, who married a daughter of the Thakur of Bednor, by whom he has recently had a daughter.

Deogurh is situated to the north of Meywar, 65 miles from Udaipur, near the Ajmere border. The town is a walled one and contains about 3,000 houses. The Rawut's palace is on the east of the town, and there is a small fort (morilla) at each side. The Deogurh estate is composed of 164 villages, yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 72,117.† The amount of "chutoond" levied by the Darbar is Rs. 7,142 per annum. The population, as recorded in the census of 1881, is 44,711.

Genealogical Tree of the Deogurh Family arising from Rawut Singhji of Amet.

Common ancestor Kandhal, son of Chonda and grandson of Maharana Lakha. Kandhal's second son Singhji was the head of the Amet family, and from his, Singhji's, younger son Sangaji or Sangram Singhji, sprung the Deogurh house.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Sangaji. | (7) Sangram Singhji. |
| (2) Dudaji. | (8) Jeswunt Singhji. |
| (3) Ishirdasji. | (9) Gokaldasji II. |
| (4) Hamir Singhji. | (10) Nahar Singhji. |
| (5) Gokaldasji. | (11) Runjeet Singhji. |
| (6) Dwardadasji (received Deogurh in A.D. 1692.) | (12) Krishna Singhji, present Rawut, has a son named Jeswunt Singh, who is married to a daughter of the Thakur of Bednor. |

VII.—BEGUM.

The Rawuts of Begum are a branch of the Salumbar family.

When Krishna Das, the eldest son of Khangharji, obtained Salumbar, his brother Govind Das was given Gothlai, a small village at present in possession of the Athana Rawut, who is of the brotherhood of the Begum nobles. Govind Das was slain at the village of Nawa, near Jawad, in an encounter with one of the Emperor Akbir's forces. His son Rawut Megh defeated the army of Mohabat Khan, which had come against Maharana Amar Singh at Untala. On the conclusion of the treaty between the Emperor Jehangir and Maharana Amar Singh, the latter gave the district of Begum, which Rawut Megh had seized from the Shaktawats, to Rao Baluji, Chohan, an ancestor of the Bedla family. This act offended Rawut Megh, who went off to Delhi, where the Emperor Jehangir awarded him the title of "Kali Megh" (that is, the black cloud, on account of the colour of his dress), and in A.D. 1616 granted him the estate of Malpura in jagir. Subsequently Maharaj Kunwar Kurrin Singh, son of Amar Singh, went to Malpura and brought Megh Singh back after an absence of three years, and retaking the estate of Begum from Baluji Chohan restored it to "Kali Megh," giving Gungrar to Baluji in compensation.

Nursing Das, to whom had been given a jagir in the pargana of Malpura, was the eldest son of Kali Megh, but Kali Megh set him aside and made his youngest son Raj Singh his heir. On Megh Singh's death the then Maharana, finding disunion between the two brothers, granted Gothlai to Nursing Das, from whom is descended the Rawat of Athna and bestowed Begum on Raj Singh. Maha Singh, the son of the latter, fought bravely with the army of the Darbar against Dungarpur in the time of Maharana Raj Singh I. Maha Singh I had five sons, viz., (1) Mokham Singh, (2) Kushal Singh, (3) Bhopal Singh, (4) Ulluji, and (5) Hari Singh. Mokham Singh succeeded his father, and at his own death left a child, named Ud Singh, aged five months: this child died a month after his father; upon this Kushal Singh succeeded. He dying without issue was succeeded by Bhopal Singh, and Bhopal Singh similarly dying without issue was succeeded by his brother Ulluji.

Then came Ulluji's son Anop Singh. Anop Singh died childless and the estate fell to his uncle Hari Singh. Devi Singh, successor to Hari Singh, afforded shelter to Rao Budh Singh, the Ruler of Bundi, who had been expelled

* Whenever the Chief of Ghanerao comes to Meywar he still holds his rank as the sixth noble, and on such occasions the Noble of Deogurh takes the seventh place. The place of the Ghanerao Sardar is still recognized by the Darbar.

† See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

from Bundi by the then Rajah Jai Singh of Amber (Jaipur). Devi Singh assisted the Bundi Chief, with whom he was nearly connected by marriage, in his attempt to recover Bundi, but without success, and Rao Budh Singh died in exile at Bagpura near Begum.

Rawut Megh Singh II of Begum espoused the cause of Ratna in his rebellion against Maharana Ursi, and being at enmity with Rawut Bhim Singh of Salumbar and Arjun Singh of Korabur, who were on the side of the Maharana, he attacked Begum, which had been taken from him, and a great rebellion ensued. This occurred in A.D. 1775 during Maharana Hamir Singh's minority and obliged the Queen-Mother to call upon Scindia for the reduction of the Megawat. Scindia recovered the Crown lands which Megh Singh had usurped and imposed on the refractory noble a fine of nine and a half lakhs of rupees. Of this amount nearly five lakhs were paid in gold and silver coins; and as security for the payment of the balance 55 villages in the Pargana of Bhinchor were mortgaged to the Mahrattas and these villages now form part of the territories of Scindia and Holkar.

To Megh Singh II succeeded Pratap Singh, and to Pratap Singh Maha Singh II, who abdicated in favor of his son Kishore Singh in Sambat 1880, A.D. 1824, and became a religious recluse at the shrines of Nathdwara and Kankroli. In Sambat 1895, A.D. 1839, Kishore Singh was murdered in cold blood by a Brahman who was at once cut down by the guard present. What led to the murder of Kishore Singh, or at whose instigation the foul crime was committed, has ever since remained a mystery. On Kishore Singh's murder Maha Singh returned once more to the outer world and resumed the management of the estate. He nominated his younger son Madhava Singh as his successor, but the latter died in A.D. 1861 while his father was alive, his (Madhava Singh's) son the present Siwai Rawut Meghji III succeeded his grandfather on his death in A.D. 1867. Rawut Siwai Megh Singh is about 29 years of age; he seldom comes to Court. He had one son by his first wife, the daughter of the late Rao Bukht Singh of Bedla, but the child died and there has been no further issue.

Begum is situated about 70 miles east of the capital in the Bamni valley in the midst of a very fertile district, though of no very great extent. The Rawut's palace is a conspicuous object from the hills around. The Rawut of Begum ranks seventh amongst the first class nobles of Meywar.

There are 157 villages in the Begum estate yielding an annual income of Rs. 62,265.*

The Rawut pays Rs. 6,532 as "chutoond" annually to the Darbar.

The population as recorded in 1881 is 24,315.

Genealogical Tree of the Begum Family.

(1) Govind Das.	(9) Rawat Siwai Anop Singhji.
(2) Rawut Siwai Kali Meghji I.	(10) " Hari Singhji.
(3) " Raj Singhji.	(11) " Devi Singhji.
(4) " Maha Singhji I.	(12) " Meghji II.
(5) " Mokham Singhji.	(13) " Pratap Singhji.
(6) " Kushal Singhji.	(14) " Maha Singhji II.
(7) " Bhopal Singhji.	(15) " Kishore Singhji.
(8) " Ulluji.	(16) " Meghji III (present Rawut who has no issue.)

VIII.—DILWARA.

Sujja, the ancestor of the Raj† of Dilwara, who is of the Jhala clan of Rajputs, with his brother Ujja, came from the Halwed district of Jhalawar in Kathiawar to Meywar in A. D. 1507 and was killed at Chitor in the time of Maharana Bikramajit when that place was besieged by Bahadur Shah, King of Guzerat. Sujja's son Jait Singh I being, for some reason, annoyed with the Court of Meywar, went to that of Rao Maldeo of Jodhpur, from whom he obtained the estate of Kherwa. Rao Maldeo had married the eldest daughter of Jait Singh named Surup Deo. Jait Singh, who returned after some time to Meywar, had four sons, the eldest of whom, Manji or Raj Man Singh, succeeded his father in the Dilwara estate and married the daughter of Maharana Udey Singh. He was killed at the battle of Haldighat, but left three sons—(1) Chutter Sal, (2)

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

† "Raj" an old Hindu form of the word intermediate between Raja and Rao.

Kulyan Singh, and (3) Asa. Chutter Sal was the son born of his father's marriage with Maharana Udey Singh's daughter, and was therefore nephew of Maharana Pratap Singh, the successor of Udey Singh, on the *gadi* of Meywar. He was of a hot-tempered disposition and easily apt to take offence, and, as described in the annals of the Gogunda family, becoming angry at some supposed insult, went off to Maharaja Sur Singh of Jodhpur. Upon this Maharana Pratap Singh resumed Dilwara, made it Crown land and transferred it to Thakur Man Man Dass Rathor. Chutter Sal's two brothers, Kulyan and Asa, acting on the advice of certain Brahmans, remained at Chirwa, situated south-east of Ekljni and not far from Dilwara. In the time of Maharana Amara Singh (the successor to Maharana Pratap Singh) Kulyan Singh fought most bravely against the armies of the Emperors Akbar and Jehangir, and on the death of Thakur Man Man Dass in Sambat 1668 A. D. 1611-12, when the estate of Bednor was given to his (Man Man, Das') son Shamal Das, was rewarded by having the estate of Dilwara bestowed on him.

As related in the annals of Gogunda, Kulyan was wounded and made a prisoner on his return from Jodhpur (whither he had gone to recall his brother Shatru Sal) by a force of Prince Khurram under the command of Abdulla Khan in Sambat 1671, A. D. 1615. Kulyan Singh was succeeded by his son Ragho Deoji. It was this Ragho Deo who made a perpetual gift of his village of Siarh and its lands to the god Nathji, which gift was confirmed by Maharana Jagat Singh II in A.D. 1737. Nathji was removed from the car in which he had been brought from Brij, and in due time a temple was erected for his reception, when the hamlet of Siarh became the town of Nathdwara. Ragho also made the sacrifice of an elephant * to the goddess Ratha Sen, whose temple stands on the top of a remarkable conical peak, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the south of Dilwara and about 1,000 feet above the town. The ascent is by a zigzag road cut out of the rock on its western and south-western faces; the latter part is roughly paved. This hill forms a most prominent landmark for miles around.

The Rajs of Dilwara still offer, instead of the elephant formerly sacrificed, 9 buffaloes and 18 goats at this shrine yearly, one day previous to the festival of the Dasera.

Ragho Deo was killed in one of the battles fought with the Emperor Alamgir in the reign of Maharana Raj Singh. He left a son Jait Singh II, who succeeded him, then came in succession Saja II, Man Singh II, Kulyan Singh II, Ragho II (he was murdered by the order of Maharana Ursi II), Sajja III, Kulyan Singh III, Boiri Sal, and lastly Raj Fattah Singhji, the present Raj of Dilwara, who has two sons, the eldest Zalim Singh aged 22, the youngest Bijey Singh aged 15; now a promising pupil in the Mayo College at Ajmere. Dilwara is a large town picturesquely situated amongst the eastern ranges of the Aravallis about 15 miles north-east of Udaipur. The palace of the Chief is on a conical hill to the south of the town, which it overlooks.

Raj Fattah Singh, now about 53 years of age, is often at Court. He is a member of the "Mahad Raj Sabha," or State Council; is often consulted by the Maharana and is an intelligent and thoroughly loyal noble. The Chiefs of Dilwara rank eighth amongst the first class nobles of Meywar. The Raj possesses 97 villages of the annual value of Rs. 50,326.† He pays Rs. 6,124 yearly to the Darbar as "chutoond." The population, as taken in the census of 1881, is 21,599.

Genealogical Tree of the Rajs of Dilwara.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| (1) Raj Sujjaji. | (8) Raj Man Singhji II. |
| (2) „ Jait Singhji. | (9) „ Kulyan Singhji II. |
| (3) „ Man Singhji. | (10) „ Raghoji II. |
| (4) „ Kulyan Singhji. | (11) „ Sujjaji III. |
| (5) „ Raghoji. | (12) „ Kulyan Singhji III. |
| (6) „ Jait Singhji II. | (13) „ Bairi Salji. ‡ |
| (7) „ Sujjaji II. | (14) „ Futtah Singhji § (present Raj of Dilwara.) |

* Ragho Deoji asked permission from the Maharana Raj Singh I to be allowed to go and offer a sacrifice to the goddess Ratha Sen, but the Maharana was not willing to let him go, and in a taunting manner said to him - "Is it that you would sacrifice an elephant that you wish to go?" Ragho Deoji, upon this, determined to offer an elephant, and was about to do so, but the Mahawat refused to alight, as he said he had earned his living for a long period with the elephant, and thus the Mahawat and the elephant were both driven over the northern precipices and died.

† See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

‡ His brother Kirti Singh, was adopted into Sadri when Chandan Singh died childless.

§ Was adopted from Sadri, being the third son of Kirti Singh, Bairi Salji having no issue.

IX.—AMET.

The jagir of Amet belongs to the Chondawat division of the Maharana's brotherhood. The title of the noble is Rawut, and he holds the ninth place amongst the feudatories of the first class. The immediate ancestor of the family was Kandhal, son of Chonda and grandson of Rana Lakha. Kandhal's son Singhji received Kotharia in jagir. He had two sons, the elder Jaga and the younger Sanga. The descendants of the former are called Jagawut Chondawuts.

Jaga's son Rawut Putta was killed fighting most bravely at the siege of Chitor by Akbar, which lasted from October 1567 to March 1568, and the Emperor was so struck with his gallantry and that of Jey Mal, Thakur of Bednor, that he erected statues to their memory at the most conspicuous entrance of his palace at Delhi. Bernier thus wrote of these statues on the 1st July 1663 from Delhi—"I find nothing remarkable at the entry, but two great elephants of stone which are in the two sides of one of the gates. Upon one of them is the statue of Jey Mal, that famous Raja of Chitor and upon the other Putta, his brother." This, however, is a mistake. Jey Mal was not Raja of Chitor, but jagirdar of Bednor, a Rathore, whose ancestors had come from Marwar to Meywar early in the sixteenth century, and Putta was a Sisodia.

The jagir of Amet was bestowed on Kurun Singh, the eldest son of Putta, by Maharana Pratap Singh. Another ancestor of this family, by name Pratap Singh, the fourteenth in succession, lost his life in defending his country against the Mahrattas.

When Rao Prithi Singh II (a grandson of Pratap Singh) of Amet died childless in the time of Maharana Sarup Singh, Chondawut Zalim Singh of Bemali, who was distantly connected with the Amet family, having gained over to his side the widow of Prithi Singh, placed his younger son Amar Singh in possession of Amet. But Chutter Singh of Jhiloli, being a nearer connection of the deceased Rao than the son of Zalim Singh, claimed and was allowed by Maharana Surup Singh to proceed to Amet with a view of taking possession. Thus authorized he attacked Amet with the help of Rawut Ranjit Singh of Deogurh. Puddam Singh, the eldest son of Zalim Singh, was killed in the fight, and Thakur Surtan Singh of Lasani was wounded. Zalim Singh with his son Amar Singh and the deceased Prithi Singh's wife sought shelter with Rawut Keshri Singh of Salumbar. Subsequently Maharana Sarup Singh made Chatar Singh Rawut of Amet. Zalim Singh and Amar Singh several times fruitlessly attempted to recover possession of the jagir. At length, when Maharana Shimbu Singh succeeded to the *gadi*, Zalim Singh found favor with him, and Chatar Singh was induced to promise a jagir from the Amet estate, yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 8,000, to Amar Singh. This, however, did not satisfy Amar Singh, and he declined the offer. Maharana Shimbu Singh then granted a jagir of the annual value of Rs. 20,000 to Amar Singh, whom he raised to the rank of a first-class noble of Meywar. Orders were frequently issued to set apart from the jagir of Amet lands of the value of Rs. 8,000, but up to the time of Chatar Singh's death these orders were not carried out. Within the last few years, however, two villages, Sheodas and Tunguch, worth Rs. 2,500, have been made over by Amet to Meja, and Rs. 5,500 cash is paid annually from the Amet estate to Rawut Amar Singh. The amount of "chutoond" on Rs. 8,000 is paid by Meja to the Darbar, not by Amet. Chatar Singh left only one son, the present Rawut Sheonath Singh. His mother died shortly after her husband, and the boy was thus left an orphan. The estate is under management by the Darbar, and Sheonath Singh is a pupil at the Mayo College, Ajmere.

Amet is a walled town situated in a fine valley on the banks of the Chundra Bhaga river, about fifty miles north of Udaipur.

The Amet estate has now 46 villages, for which Rs. 3,415 are paid annually as "chutoond" to the Durbar. The income of the estate is estimated to be Rs. 36,138*, and the population, as taken in the census of 1881, is 13,052.

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

Amet line arising from Rawut Chondaji, the common ancestor of the Salambar family.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>(1) Rawut Singhji, second son of Kandhae and great grandson of Maharana Lakhaji.
 (2) Rawut Jagaji.
 (3) „ Puttaji.
 (4) „ Kurun Singhji (received Amet).
 (5) Rawut Man Singhji.
 (6) „ Madho Singhji.
 (7) „ Gordhun Singhji.
 (8) „ Duleh Singhji.
 (9) „ Prithi Singhji.
 (10) Rawut Man Singhji II died in his father's life-time, and his son Futteh Singh succeeded his</p> | <p>grandfather (Prithi Singh) at Amet, whilst his third son Nathu Singh received Jhiloli from Maharana Ursji.
 (11) Rawut Futteh Singhji.
 (12) „ Pratab Singhji.
 (13) „ Salam Singhji.
 (14) „ Prithi Singhji II died childless and was succeeded by Rawut Chutter Singh from Jhiloli.
 (15) Rawut Chutter Singhji.
 (16) „ Sheonath Singhji, present Rawut.</p> |
|---|--|

X.—MEJA.

The creation of the Rawut of Meja as a first class noble (equal in rank with Amet) is quite modern. On the demise of Rawut Prithi Singh of Amet without issue in the time of Maharana Surup Singh, Chondawut Zalim Singh of Bemali, the father of Amar Singh, the present possessor of the Meja estate, endeavoured to obtain for his son, this same Amar Singh, the succession to Amet; but Maharana Surup Singh would not sanction the scheme, and Chatar Singh, jaghirdar of Jhiloli, who was the rightful heir, was acknowledged as Rawut of Amet. On the death of Maharana Surup Singh, Zalim Singh in 1865 A.D. found favour with Maharana Shimbu Singh, who allowed his son Amar Singh to occupy the seat of Amet in Durbar, and gave him the title of Rawut, subsequently bestowing on him the Meja estate, worth Rs. 20,000 per annum. Amar Singh has made Meja his head-quarters and is styled Rawut of Meja. He has built a small fort there or rather repaired one, which formerly existed, and has mounted some three or four pieces of ordnance thereon. He has a son named Raj Singh, aged about nine years, and a daughter lately betrothed to Maharaj Man Singh of Futtehgurh under Kishengurh, who also possesses an estate in Meywar given him by the late Maharana Sujjun Singh, G.C.S.I.

In the list furnished by the Durbar, Meja is put down as ranking ninth, and Amet tenth, amongst the first class nobles; but in reality they are of equal rank, neither will sit below the other in Durbar, and if therefore one attends the other absents himself.

Meja is situated in the centre of Meywar about a mile and a half from the left bank of the Kothari river, and about five miles from the Mandel station of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway.

Meja possesses 11 villages of the annual value of Rs. 21,400* for which he pays Rs. 3,121 as "chootund" annually to the Durbar. The population as recorded in 1881 is 4,328.

Genealogical Trees of the Bemali and Jhiloli Families showing their connexion with Amet, and how Meja has become separate.

BEMALI.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>(1) Hari Singh (fourth son of Gordhun Singh, seventh Rawut of Amet, received Bemali in jaghire).
 (2) Jir Raj.
 (3) Devi Singh.</p> | <p>(4) Chatar Bhuj.
 (5) Nathu Singh.
 (6) Zalim Singh. Zalim Singh had three sons; the eldest, Puddum Singh, was killed at Amet.</p> |
|--|---|

Amar Singh is the present and first Rawut of Meja, whilst the third son, Luchman Singh, is the Rawut of Bemali.

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

JHILOLI.

The third son of Kuniwur Man Singh II, the tenth in the genealogical tree of Amet, named Nathu Singh, received Jhiloli from Maharana Ursiji.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| (1) Nathu Singh. | (3) Bukhtawur Singh. |
| (2) Zalim Singh. | (4) Devijun Singh. |

(5) Chutter Singh became fifteenth Rawut of Amet.

XI.—GOGUNDA.

The title of the noble possessing the estate of Gogunda is Raj. He holds the eleventh place amongst the first class Sirdars of Meywar. The family is the same as that of Bari Sadri and Dilwara, being Jhala Rajputs, whose ancestor Ujja and Sujja came to Meywar from the Malwad district of Kathiawar in the time of Maharana Rai Mull in A. D. 1507. The grand-son of Sujja, Raj Man Singh, married the daughter of Maharana Oodey Singh, and had a son by her named Shatru Sal, while two other sons, Kalyan and Asa, were born of his second wife. Shatru Sal, who was proud of his lineage (as grandson of the Maharana), held the fief of Dilwara, but considering himself to have been insulted by having a process served on him by the Durbar, took umbrage, left Dilwara and proceeded to Jodhpore in spite of the ruling Maharana Protap Singh's (successor of Maharana Oodey Singh) wish, who then made over Dilwara to Thakur Manman Das of Bednor. Shatru Sal's younger brother, Kalyan Singh, behaved very bravely in the wars during the lifetime of Maharana Amra Singh (successor to Maharana Protap Singh), who bestowed upon him the jaghire of Dilwara on the death of Thakur Manman Das in A.D. 1611.

When Prince Khurram came to Udaipur with an army, Maharana Amara Singh sent Kalyan Singh to Jodhpore to recall Shatru Sal. The two brothers on their way back to Meywar encountered the imperial forces under Nawab Abdulla Khan at the "Ambal Sambal" pass in Godwar of Marwar. Kalyan Singh was captured by the enemy, after fighting bravely and receiving several wounds. The horse of Shatur Sal, who was also wounded, bore him in safety to the hills near. After a few days Shatru Sal surprised the imperial forces at Gogunda and was there killed. Maharana Amara Singh, in reward for the services of his father, bestowed Gogunda on his younger son, Kanh Singh.

The present Raj Man Singh is 62 years of age. He has had a large family and has four grown-up sons still living—(1) Ajey Singh, aged 44; (2) Jujhar Singh, aged 37; (3) Gobind Singh, aged 29; (4) Prithi Singh, aged 28 years.

Gogunda is situated in the hills on a plateau 2,757 feet above sea level, distant from Udaipur about 20 miles. The Gogunda estate consists of 98 villages of the annual value of Rs. 24,315,* for which the Raj pays "chutoond" to the Darbar Rs. 2,552. The population is estimated at 12,416.

Genealogical Tree of Gogunda.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| (1) Shatru Sal I. | (6) Kanh Singhji II. |
| (2) Kanhji I (received Gogunda from Maharana Amara Singh). | (7) Jeswunt Singhji II. |
| (3) Jeswunt Singhji. | (8) Shatru Salji II. |
| (4) Ram Singhji. | (9) Lal Singhji. |
| (5) Ajey Singhji. | (10) Man Singhji, the present Raj. |

XII.—KANOR.

The Rawuts of Kanor trace their origin from Sarang Deo, the son of Ajja, who was the second son of Maharana Lakha.

Sarang Deo sided with Suraj Mull, the grandson of Rana Mokhuil and founder of the Pertabgarh family, in his many fights against Kunwar Prithi Raj, the son of Rana Rae Mull, by whom he (Sarang Deo) was killed at the village of Bhatorda. Rawut Maha Singh, the ninth in succession in this family, was killed with many other Chieftains in the engagement near Hurda on the Kari Nadi with Nawab Ranbaz Khan of Delhi. Maharana Sangram II granted the fief of Kanor to Maha Singh's son Sarang Deo II.

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of preface.

Regarding the Kanor Chief of those days, probably Sarang Deo's son, Tod relates the following:—

"Another anecdote shows him (Maharana Sangram II) as the vigilant shepherd watching over his flock. As he sat down to dinner tidings arrived of an invasion of the Malwa Pathans, who had rifled several villages at Mundisore carrying the inhabitants into captivity. Pushing the platter from him, he ordered his armour and the "nakara" to beat the assemblage of his Chieftains. With all speed a gallant band formed on the terrace below, but they prevailed on the Rana to leave the punishment of the desultory aggression to them as unworthy of his personal interference. They departed.

Several hours after, the Chief of Kanor arrived, having left a sick bed, with a tertian, come in obedience to his master's summons. Vain was his Prince's dissuasion to keep him back, and he joined the band as he came up with the invaders. The foe was defeated and put to flight, but the sick Chieftain fell in the charge and his son was severely wounded by his side. On the young Chief repairing to Court he was honored with a "bira" (betel or pân leaf folded up) from the Rana's own hand, a distinction which he held to be an ample reward for his wounds and testimonial of the worth of his father."

The present Rawut Nahar Singh is aged 25 years. He succeeded his father Umed Singh, who died in 1884.

Nahar Singh has no issue.

Kanor is situated about 45 miles east of the capital and 13 miles south of the Udaipur-Nimach Road.

The Rawut owns 94 villages yielding an annual income of Rs. 27,625* on which the amount of "chutoond" levied by the Darbar is Rs. 3,166. The population is 18,093.

Kanor line from Maharana Lakshji.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| (1) Rawut Ajaji. | (10) Rawut Sarang Deo II (received Kanor from Maharana Sangram Singh II). |
| (2) " Sarangdeoiji. | (11) Rawut Prithi Singhji. |
| (3) " Jogaji. | (12) " Juggut Singhji. |
| (4) " Narbudji. | (13) " Zalim Singhji. |
| (5) " Net Singhji. | (14) " Ajit Singhji. |
| (6) " Bhan Singhji. | (15) " Umed Singhji. |
| (7) " Juggun Nathji. | (16) " Nahar Singhji, present Rawut. |
| (8) " Mean Singhji. | |
| (9) " Maha Singhji. | |

XIII.—BHINDUR.

The Maharaj of Bhindur holds the 13th place amongst the Meywar nobles of the first class and belongs to the Bhanawut division of the Shukhtawut clan of Rajputs. Maharana Oodey Singh, the founder of the modern capital of Meywar, had twenty-four sons, the eldest of whom, Pratap Singh, succeeded his father on the *gadi* of Meywar. The second son was Shukta, the founder of the family, which is now represented by the Maharaj of Bhindur. In his early days (accordingly to Tod) Shukta, whom the astrologer had at his birth announced was to be the bane of Meywar, was commanded to be put to death, but was saved by the then Chief of Saloombar named Sain Das, begging his life as a boon, and promising to educate him as his own heir, he being then childless. In the meantime Maharana Oodey Singh died and was succeeded by Maharana Pratap Singh, who sent for his brother Shukta to Court. A quarrel soon after arose between them, and Shukta was banished from Meywar. He joined the Emperor Akbar and was present at the famous battle of Huldighat, fought by Maharana Pratap Singh against Rajah Maun of Amber. The fight was a desperate one, but the Sesodias were overpowered, and Maharana Pratap Singh had to fly for his life. It is said that Shukta, whose personal enmity to his brother had made him an enemy to Meywar, beheld Maharana Pratap Singh flying unattended and pursued by two of the enemy who were rapidly coming up with him. On this Shukta joined in the pursuit but only to slay the pursuers. The Maharana's famous charger "Cheytuk," which had been badly wounded, dropped dead, and Shukta gave his own horse to his brother, thus enabling him to escape. Shukta then resolved

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of Preface.

on returning to his allegiance, and determined to make a suitable nuzzur on his introduction. He redeemed Bhynsrur by a *coup de main* and joined Pratap at Udaipur, who made him a grant of the conquest which long remained the chief abode of the Shuktawuts. Shukta had eleven sons, the eldest of whom was Bhanji. He performed a service which obtained him the favour of his Chief Amara Singh, the successor of Pratap, who returning from Rutlam was insulted by the Rathores of Bhindur. This insult was punished by the Shuktawut, who took the town by assault, expelling the aggressors. Maharana Amara Singh added it to his fief of Bhynsrur, and since the latter was bestowed on the rival clan, the Chondawuts, Bhindur has continued the chief residence of the leader of the Shuktawuts. Bhanji was succeeded by Poorun Mull, who was slain with many other Meywar Chiefs at the battle of Ranpur in Sumbut 1671 A.D. 1615; Poorun Mull by Sabal Singh; Sabal Singh by Mokham Singh. Mokham Singh went to the Emperor Shahjahan, from whom he received a munsub. He, however, fought against the Emperor Aurungzeb in the time of Maharana Raj Singh and captured the ensign of the Imperial Army, which is said to be still in the possession of the Bhindur family. Amar Singh succeeded his father Mookham Singh and had four sons, the eldest of whom, Prithi Singh, was killed in the Deccan, when the forces of Udaipur were sent to that province, and the second son, Jeyt Singh, succeeded to Bhindur. Oomed Singh became Maharaj of Bhindur in succession to Jeyt Singh; then came Mokham Singh, II who had three sons—(1) Zalim Singh, who died in his father's lifetime; (2) Zorawur Singh, who succeeded to Bhindur; and (3) Futtah Singh, on whom was bestowed the fief of Boera with the title of Rawut by Maharana Jawan Singh. Zorawur Singh died without issue, and a dispute arose about the succession, when the Maharana decided that Hamir Singh from another (the Pansul) branch of the Shuktawut family should have Bhindur. Hamir Singh had four sons, the eldest of whom, Muddan Singh, aged 51, is the present Maharaj of Bhindur. The second Shukut Singh was adopted by the late Rawut of Boera but died childless during the lifetime of his father, adoptive. The third son, Ruttun Singh, is now Rawut of Boera, and Keshri Singh, the son of Hamir Singh's fourth son, Doolah Singh, aged 11, has been adopted by Maharaj Muddun Singh, he having no male issue.

Bhindur lies some 30 miles to the south-east of Udaipur and about 8 miles due south of the Nimach-Udaipur Road. The town, a walled one, surrounded by a wet ditch or "fosse," contains some 2,000 houses. The Maharaja's palace is on the western side. The estate consists of 63 villages, yielding a revenue of Rs. 42,050* per annum, on which Rs. 4,002 is levied annually by the Durbar as *chutoond*. The population is 13,164.

The genealogical tree of the family is as follows:—

Bhindur line arising from Maharana Oodey Singh—

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| (1) Maharaj Shukta Singh; hence the term Shuktawut. | (7) Maharaj Jeyt Singh. |
| (2) Maharaj Bhan. | (8) " Oomed Singh. |
| (3) " Poorun Mull. | (9) " Khushal Singh. |
| (4) " Sabal Singh. | (10) " Mokham Singh II. |
| (5) " Mokham Singh. | (11) " Zorawur Singh. |
| (6) " Amur Singh. | (12) " Hamir Singh. |
| | (13) " Muddun Singh. |

Present Maharaj has no issue, but has adopted his nephew Keshri Singh.

XIV.—BEDNOR.

The Thakurs of Bednor are Rathores. Their immediate ancestor was Rao Dudaji, a younger son of Rao Jodhaji of Jodhpore, who founded Merta in Marwar in A.D. 1486. One of Duda's sons, Beerum Deo, was killed in A.D. 1527 fighting with Rana Sanga of Meywar against the Emperor Baber. Besides, Beerum Deo Duda lost two other sons in this battle, *viz.*, Rai Mal and Raton Singh.

Beerum Deo's son was the famous Jey Mal, who fell at the siege of Chitor in A.D. 1568. According to Tod "Akbar claimed the honour of the death of Jey Mal by his own hand: the fact is recorded by Abdul Fuzil and by the

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of Preface.

Emperor Jehangir who conferred on the matchlock which aided him to that distinction the title of 'Singram.' But the conqueror of Chitor evinced a more exalted sense, not only of the value of his conquest, but of the merits of his foes in erecting statues to the manes of Jey Mal and Putta at the most conspicuous entrance of his palace at Delhi, and they retained that distinction even when Bernier was in India."

I find in Dr. Stratton's monograph of Chitor and the Meywar family the following about Jey Mal:—

"He was on the battlements at night directing repairs when Akbar, said to have been accompanied by the Jaipur Chief, was moving through the advanced lines of his camp.

"Seeing a light on the fort wall he fired his favourite matchlock. Next day it was known the ball 'shot at a venture' in the night had wounded Jey Mal, and Mussalman records state that Akbar, who previously called his matchlock 'durust andaz' or the straight thrower thereon dubbed it 'Singram' as meriting now the name of a hero. Jey Mal scorning to die by a distant shot was, in the next attempt of the garrison to drive back the enemy, carried out on the shoulders of a stalwart clansman and so was killed fighting, as he wished."

Mura Bai (the famous lady whom Tod wrongly describes as the wife of Maharana Kumbhu) was the daughter of Raton Singh, and therefore a cousin of the famous Jey Mal. She married Bhoj Raj (a son of Maharana Sangram Singh I, who died during his father's lifetime) between Sumbut 1570 and 1580, A.D. 1514 to A.D. 1524, whereas Maharana Kumbhu was killed in A.D. 1469 and could not therefore have been Mura Bai's husband. Thakur Ram Das, the son of Jey Mal, was killed at the battle of Huldighat in A.D. 1576, and his brother Mokund Das fell in the battle against the Emperor Akbar's army at the Temple of Ranpur (the famous Jain Temple) near Sadri in Godwar (now of Marwar).

On Mokund Das was bestowed the fief of Bednor, and on his death Bednor and Dilwara were conferred on his son Thakur Man Man Das who died at the latter place where his "Qhutri" or Cenotaph is still to be seen. His son, Shanwal Das, retained possession of Bednor, but Dilwara was restored to Jhala Raj Kalyan, its former proprietor. Shanwal Das made several attacks on the army of Aurungzeb in the time of Maharana Raj Singh. His son Jeswunt Singh went with troops to reduce the Bhils and was wounded fighting against them. Thakur Jey Singh fought with the Meywar forces near Hurah against the Imperial Commander Ranbey Khan of Delhi, and captured, as spoils of war, a tulwar belonging to Ranbey Khan, an elephant-hide shield, and a kettle-drum. These articles are still in the possession of the Bednor family. Jey Singh was also engaged against the Mers of Merwara with Thakur Sultan Singh of Masuda of Ajmere; the latter was killed, and Jey Singh wounded on this occasion. Thakur Akhey Singh, the grandson of Jey Singh, was wounded in the battle fought by Meywar against Madho Rao Scindia in Maharana Ari Singh's time. His son Kunwar Gaj Singh exhibited great bravery in a fight against the "Maha Purushas" (a set of ascetic Jogis) at Gungrar, who had sided with Rutna Singh in his rebellion against Maharana Ari Singh.

Of Thakur Jeyt Singh, Tod, on whom fell the task of restoring order in Meywar and persuading the feudal lords to restore to the Durbar Crown villages which they had taken possession of when the State was overrun with enemies, thus writes:—

"The Bednor and Amait Chiefs, both of the superior grades of nobles, were the most formidable obstacles to the operation of the Treaty of the 4th May. The first of these, by name Jeyt Singh (the victorious lion) was of the Mairtea clan, the bravest of the brave race of Rathore, whose ancestors had left their native abodes on the plains of Marwar and had come to Meywar in A.D. 1560 to A.D. 1568. His descendants, amongst whom was Jey Mal of immortal memory, enjoyed honours in Meywar equal to their birth and high deserts. It was the more difficult to treat with men like these, whose conduct had been a contrast to the general license of the times, and who had reason to feel offended when no distinction was observed between them and those who had disgraced the name of Rajput.

"Instead of the submission expected from the Rathore, so overwhelmed was he from the magnitude of the claims, which amounted to virtual extinction of the power, that he begged leave to resign his estates. In prosecution of this design he took post in the chief hall of the palace, from which no entreaties could make him move until the Rana, to escape his importunities and even restraint, obtained his promise to abide by the decision of the Agent. The forms of the Rana's Court, from time immemorial, prohibit all personal communication between the Sovereign and his Chiefs in matters of individual interest, by which indecorous altercation is avoided. But the Ministers, whose office it was to obtain every information, did not make a rigid scrutiny into the title deed of the various estates previous to advancing the

claims of the Crown. This brave man had enemies and he was too proud to have recourse to the common arts either of adulation or bribery to aid his cause. It was a satisfaction to find that the two principal towns demanded of him were embodied in a grant of Singram Singh's reign; and the absolute rights of the fisc of which he had become possessed were cut down to about fifteen thousand rupees of annual revenue. But there were other points on which he was even more tenacious than the surrender of these. Being the chief noble of the fine district of Bednor, which consisted of three hundred and sixty towns and villages, chiefly of feudal allotments (many of them of his own clan), he had taken advantage of the times to establish his influence over them, to assume the right of wardship of minors, and secure those services which were due to the Prince, but which he wanted the power to enforce. The holders of these estates were of the third class of vassals or *gole* (the mass) whose services it was important to reclaim, and who constituted in past times the most efficient force of the Ranas, and were the preponderating balance of their authority when mercenaries were unknown in these patriarchal States. Abundant means towards a just investigation had been previously procured, and after some discussion, in which all admissible claims were recognized and argument was silenced by incontrovertible facts, this Chieftain relinquished all that was demanded, and sent in, as from himself, his written renunciation to his Sovereign. However convincing the data by which his proper rights and those of his Prince were defined, it was to feeling and prejudice that we were mainly indebted for so satisfactory an adjustment. An appeal to the name of Jey Mal, who fell defending Chitor against Akbar, and the contrast of his ancestor's loyalty and devotion with his own contumacy, acted as a talisman, and wrung tears from his eyes and the deed from his hand. It will afford some idea of the difficulties encountered, as well as the invidiousness of the task of arbitrating such matters. To give his own comment *verbatim*: "I remained 'faithful when his own kin deserted him, and was one of four Chiefs who alone of all Meywar fought for him in the rebellion; but the son of Jey Mal is forgotten while the plunderer is his boon companion, and though of inferior rank receives an estate which elevates him above me,'" "alluding to the Chief of Bhadesar who plundered the Queen's dower." But while the brave descendant of Jey Mal returned to Bednor with the marks of his Sovereign's favour, and the applause of those he esteemed the "runner" "went back to Bhadesar in disgrace to which his Prince's injudicious favour further contributed."

The present Thakur Keshri Singh, great-grandson of Jeyt Singh, is 55 years of age; his eldest son, Sabul Singh, died at the age of 32; and a second son, Sungram Singh, at the age of 30 years; the former left two sons, the elder Govind Singh, aged 12; the younger son has been adopted by the Thakur of Rampura in the place of his deceased uncle Sungram Singh, who had been previously adopted into the Rampura family.

Bednor lies some 93 miles north-east of Udaipur, close to the Merwara border. Almost the whole of this district is occupied by Rahtores who accompanied Jey Mal to Meywar. The estate comprises 62 villages, of the annual value of Rs. 50,378.* The population is 21,625, and the amount of "chutoond" paid by the Thakur to the Durbar Rs. 4,084.

Genealogical Tree of the Bednor Family.

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Thakur Jey Malji. | (12) Thakur Jeyt Singhji. |
| (2) " Makund Dasji. | (13) " Jodh Singhji. |
| (3) " Mun Mun Dasji. | (14) " Pratap Singhji. |
| (4) " Shanwul Dasji. | (15) " Keshri Singhji, present Thakur, |
| (5) " Jeswunt Singhji. | has had two sons Subal |
| (6) " Jogi Dasji. | Singh and Sungram Singh; |
| (7) " Jey Malji II. | both are dead, but the former |
| (8) " Jey Singhji. | left two sons, the eldest |
| (9) " Surtan Singhji. | of whom, Govind Singh, is |
| (10) " Akhey Singhji. | the heir to the estate. |
| (11) Kunwur Gaj Singh (died in his father's lifetime.) | |

XV.—BANSI.

The Rawuts of Bansi have the same origin as the Chief of Bhindur and rank fifteenth amongst the first class nobles of Meywar. The first of the family was Achaldasji, the second son of Maharaj Sukta Singh, the founder of the Bhindur house. The son of Achaldas, Narhardas, was killed during his father's lifetime at Minal, near Begum, whilst fighting against the Mahomedan army from Delhi.

After Narhardas came Jeswunt Singh, on whom Maharana Jugut Singh II conferred the estate of Kanoj, now included in the Nimbahera pergunnah

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of Preface.

of Tonk. Maharana Raj Singh gave the estate of Bansi to Keshri Singh, the son of Jeswunt Singh. Gung Das, the son and successor of Keshri Singh, made several daring attacks on the Imperial army during the Emperor Aurungzeb's invasion of Meywar in A. D. 1680-81, and the native bards still sing praises to his bravery. The present Rawut Man Singh is the eighth in succession to Rawut Gung Das. Formerly the revenues of the estate were small, but Maharana Jowan Singh added the village of Newania, yielding a revenue of 10 or 12 thousand rupees per annum. Bansi is situated about 50 miles to the south-east of Udaipore and 18 miles due south of the Udaipur-Nimach road. It contains no palace or important buildings of any kind to the south; the country is a jungle inhabited by Bheels and Meenahs.

Bamboos and teak are exported from the hills as far as Ajmere for sale.

The estate now comprises 48 villages of the annual value of Rs. 24-000.* Population 8,490. The amount of "chutoond" paid yearly to the Durbar is Rs. 202.

The Genealogical Tree of the Family is as follows :—

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| (1) Achal Das. | (8) Achal Das II. |
| (2) Narhar Das. | (9) Kishore Singh. |
| (3) Jeswunt Singh. | (10) Amar Singh. |
| (4) Keshri Singh. | (11) Ajit Singh. |
| (5) Gung Das. | (12) Nahar Singh. |
| (6) Hari Singh. | (13) Pertap Singh. |
| (7) Hati Singh. | (14) Man Singh (present Rawut.) |

XVI.—BHAINSRORGARH.

The Rawuts of Bhainsrorgarh belong to the Chondawut clan of the Maharana's brotherhood and rank sixteenth amongst the nobles of Meywar. They are an offshoot from the Salumbar family from which they separated in the time of Maharana Juggut Singh II, who ruled the country from A.D. 1734 to A.D. 1752 and bestowed the title of Rawut and the estate of Bhainsrorgarh on Lal Singh, the younger son of Rawut Keshri Singh of Salumbar in A.D. 1741. This same Lal Singh gained an unenviable notoriety in January 1763 A.D. by murdering (it is believed by the order of the then Maharana Ursiji) Maharaj Nathji of Bagor, one of the sons of Maharana Sangram Singh. Lal Singh is said to have died in A.D. 1766 of an incurable loathsome disease. He was succeeded by Man Singh, aged 18 years, who was, as described by Tod, "a soldier of no common stamp."

He was badly wounded at the battle (with the Mahrattas) at Oojein, made captive, and brought in the train of the conquering Mahrattas when they laid siege to Udaipur. His friends succeeded in effecting his liberation through the aid of a Baori, who managed to get an entrance into his tent and carried him off on his back through the camp of the besiegers to the city. The Rana was so rejoiced at his liberation that he ordered a salute to be fired, and the first intelligence the Mahratta leader had of his prisoner's escape was in answer to the question as to the cause of such rejoicing. On search being made one of the vassal substitutes of Man was found still occupying the bed of the sick man, but the sequel does not mention how such fidelity was repaid. The cenotaph of this brave son of an unworthy father is built at the point of meeting of three streams, the Chumbut, the Bamuni, and the Khal. Man Singh, who died in A.D. 1804, was succeeded by Raghunath Singh, of whom Tod writes that whilst paying a congratulatory visit on the occasion of his birthday to Maharaj Shcodan Singh, the grand-son and possessor of the honours and estates of the murdered Nathji, he was surprised to hear the herald call out "Health to the Maharaj and let him receive the compliments of Rawut Raghunath Singh. The grandson of the murderer come to pay his respects to the grandson of the murdered."

Bhainsrorgarh is situated at the confluence of the river Bamni with the Chumbul, about 140 miles east-north-east of Udaipur.

The fort and the Rawut's palace are romantically situated at the southern point of a rocky ridge with abrupt cliffs overhanging the Chumbul on the east

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of Preface.

and the Bamni on the west. On the north alone is it accessible, and there the hill is scarped. The summit of the palace is 160 feet above the river, the water-level of which is here 1,009 feet above the sea. The town contains only about 800 houses, but it commands the sole passage of the Chumbul for a great extent, and all the traffic between Meywar and Haraoti passes through it. According to Tod Bhainsror takes its name from Bhainsa, a merchant, and Rora, a Charun and Bunjarra. The Bunjarras were in olden days the privileged carriers of the country, and the place was originally built to protect their caravans from the lawless mountaineers when compelled to make long halts during the periodical rains.

The present Rawut is named Pratap Singh; he is about 31 years of age. He has no offspring.

The estate comprises 131 villages of the annual value of Rs. 1,00,000.* Population 22,971. Amount of chutoond paid yearly to the Durbar Rs. 7,502.

Genealogical Tree of the Bhainsrorgh Family.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| (1) Rawut Lal Singh, second son of Rawut Keshri Singh, of Salumbar. | (4) Rawut Amar Singhji. |
| (2) Rawut Man Singhji. | (5) „ Bhim Singhji. |
| (3) „ Raghunath Singhji. | (6) „ Pratab Singhji, (has no issue.) |

XVII.—PARSOLI.

The family of the Rao of Parsoli is an offshoot from the Chohan family of Bedla. In the time of Maharana Raj Singh, the then Rao Ramchundra of Bedla had two sons, of whom the eldest, Subal Singh, succeeded to Bedla, whilst the Maharana granted Parsoli to the youngest, named Keshri Singh.

In A.D. 1608-69 Maharana Raj Singh, being for some cause displeased with the then Rawut of Salumbar Raghunath Singh, gave the estate to Chohan Keshri Singh in addition to his own jaghire of Parsoli and conferred on him the title of Rao. In the dissensions that took place in A.D. 1692-93, between Maharana Jey Singh and his son Amra, Chohan Keshri Singh of Parsoli and Salumbar sided with the latter, whilst Kandhal II, the grandson of the dispossessed Rawut Raghunath Singh, who then held the small estate of Chawund, espoused the cause of the Maharana. Both these men were killed, the story being that Kandhar accused Keshri Singh of disloyalty to his Ruler, and stabbed him with a dagger at the then Thoor Lake, six miles north-west of Udaipur; that Keshri Singh in his death throes seized Kandhal by the skirt of his garment and drove his dagger into his chest. Both died and their widow became "satis." Maharana Jey Singh then restored Salumbar to Keshri Singh, son of Kandhal, and great-grandson of the Rawut Raghunath Singh, from whom the estate had been alienated, whilst Nahar Singh, son of Rao Chohan Keshri Singh, was permitted to retain Parsoli. After this the power of the Chondawuts of Salumbar went on increasing whilst that of the Chohans of Parsoli decreased. When Maharana Sarup Singh summoned Rao Luxman Singh of Parsoli to Udaipur, the annual income of the estate was only about Rs. 4,000. Rao Luxman Singh improved the estate a great deal and was granted additional jaghirs by Maharana Sarup Singh and Shimbu Singh. At present the estate is said to yield an income of Rs. 30,000 annually. The present Rawut Rutna Singh is a widower; he has three sons; (1)—Devi Singh, aged ten; (2) Madho Singh, seven; and (3) Sobhag Singh, three years of age.

Rutna Singh is a man of enlightened views and is thoroughly loyal to his Chief. He is a member of the Mahad Raj Sabha or State Council and is in frequent attendance at Court.

Parsoli is situated 28 miles to the north-east of Chitor and 98 miles from Udaipur.

The Rao possesses 46 villages, yielding a revenue of Rs. 9,900.* The amount of "chutoond" paid to the Darbar is Rs. 926.

Population 6,782.

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of Preface.

Genealogical Tree of the Parsoli Family.

- | | |
|--|--|
| (1) Rao Keshri Singh, second son of Rao Ramchandra of Bedla. | (6) Rao Sawunt Singhji. |
| (2) „ Nahar Singhji. | (7) „ Lal Singhji. |
| (3) „ Raghubunath Singhji. | (8) „ Laxman Singhji. |
| (4) „ Raj Singhji. | (9) „ Ratna Singhji, present Rao, whose eldest son is Kunwar Devi Singh. |
| (5) „ Sangram Singhji. | |

XVIII.—KORABUR.

The family of Korabur are a branch of the Chondawuts of Salumbar. Arjun Singh, the younger son of Rawut, Keshri Singh of Salumbar, received Korabur in jagir from Maharana Jagat Singh II in A.D. 1747. He it was who, according to Tod, met Holkar, who had advanced as far as Urtala in A.D. 1764 and negotiated the payment of fifty-one lakhs of rupees.

Four years subsequently, when the rebellion broke out against Maharana Ursiji, the Chief of Salumbar with his brotherhood were on the side of the Maharana, and it was due to this that at that time the influence of the Krishnawut Chondawuts in State affairs was very predominant.

Rana Ursi left two sons, Hamir Singh and Bhim Singh, both minors. Hamir Singh died in A.D. 1778 at the age of 16 years, and Bhim Singh was only 10 years old when he succeeded to the *gadi*. Sangram Singh, a junior branch of the Shukhtawuts at this time, invaded the estate of Korabur and was carrying off the cattle when he was intercepted by Zalim Singh, the heir of Korabur, and an action ensued in which Zalim was slain by the lance of Sangram. His father Arjun Singh swore to be revenged and made a sudden and unexpected descent on Sheogarh, which from its inaccessibility, being situated amongst the hills and forests of the Chuppun, was deemed secure against surprise. There Sangram had placed the females and children of his family. Lal Singh, the father of Sangram, who was over 70 years of age, fell in opposing the foe, when the children of Sangram were dragged out and inhumanly butchered, and the widow of Lal Singh became *sati* with the corpse of her husband. The same Arjun Singh made himself notorious by being associated with Sardar Singh of Bhadsur in the foul murder of Somji, the Rana's (Bhim Singh's) chief minister. Bhim Singh, the nephew of Arjun Singh, assumed to himself all the authority of the State, and not only failed in respect to his Prince, but offended the Queen-regent. To check him and his brethren the mother of Bhim Singh called to her aid the Shukhtawuts, who in their turn sought the assistance of Zalim Singh of Kota, and from thenceforth disaster after disaster fell on Meywar. The present Rawut Jeyt Singh, who is directly descended from Arjun Singh, is 26 years of age. He has three sons, the eldest of whom Kishor Singh is in his sixth year. Korabur is situated about 25 miles to the south-east of Udaipur. The estate comprises 63 villages of the annual value of Rs. 34,666.* The Rawuts of Korabur are exempt from the payment of "ehlutoond."

Population 20,677.

Genealogical Tree of the Korabur Family.

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) Rawut Arjun Singh, younger son of Rawut Keshri Singh of Salumbar. | (4) Rawut Esuri Singhji. |
| (2) „ Kunwar Zalim Singh, killed in his father's lifetime. | (5) „ Ruttun Singhji. |
| (3) „ Jowan Singhji. | (6) „ Jeyt Singhji, has three sons, the eldest of whom is Kunwar Kishor Singh. |

XIX.—ASIND.

The Rawuts of Asind are an offshoot of the Salumbar family and belong to the Krishnawut branch of Chundawat Rajputs. Keshri Singh (1), the 13th Rawut of Salumbar, had four sons; the eldest of whom, Kuvera Singh, succeeded his father; the second, Lal Singh, obtained Bhainsrorgarh; the third, Arjun Singh, Korabur; and the fourth, Ror Singh, got Satola. Arjun Singh was succeeded in Korabur by his grandson Jowan Singh, whose father Zalim Singh had been killed as described in the annals of Korabur, and Ajit Singh, Azim Singh's

* See remarks under paragraph 10 of Preface.

fourth son, received a grant of the village of Gorkhya with 12 villages from Maharana Bheem Singh. Ajit Singh, on behalf of the Maharana, signed the treaty with the British Government in January 1818. He had no son and adopted Rawut Dooley Singh from Satola. Dooley Singh, prior to his adoption, had been given the title of Rawut and several villages, including Asind, by Amer Singh, the eldest son of Maharana Bheem Singh. The title of Ajit Singh was Thakur and his position that of a second-class Sirdar. But Dooley Singh was placed 20th amongst the nobles of the first class. Dooley Singh being childless adopted Khuman Singh, son of Dowlut Singh, Thakur of Changeri. Khuman Singh had one son, Arjun Singh, the present Rawut, who is 33 years of age and has no family. Arjun Singh is a member of the Mahad Raj Sabha or Chief Court of Meywar. Asind lies to the north-east of Udaipore near the Ajmere border. The estate consists of fifty-five villages, with an estimated annual revenue of Rs. 51,000.* Population 15,964.

Genealogical Tree of Asind.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| (1) Thakur Ajit Singh.
(2) Rawut Dooley Singh. | | (3) Khuman Singh.
(4) Arjun Singh, present Rawut, who has no issue. |
|---|--|--|

XX.—SIRDARGURH.

This estate belongs to Rajputs of the Dodia clan, and the owner holds the third place amongst those of the first rank, who sit in front of the *gadi*. The Sirdargurh family is amongst the oldest of the Rajput servants of Meywar. Their advent to Meywar happened in this wise.

The mother of Maharana Lakha (Temp. A.D. 1383 to 1398) was travelling on a pilgrimage to Dwari-ka-nath, and on the journey was attacked by a band of robbers; the father of Dhawal Singh Dodia, named Singh of Guzerat, came to the ladies' rescue and was killed in the fight which ensued.

In recognition of this service Maharana Lakha sent for Dhawal Singh, made him a noble of the first rank and gave him Nand Rae, Masuda (now of Ajmere) and Bednor in jaghire. On another occasion, when the Maharana's mother was on a pilgrimage to Gya, Dhawal Singh was ordered to accompany her and was wounded in an affray which occurred on the way with Sher Khan, the Imperial Subadar, but the affray resulted in the defeat of the Mahomedans. On his return to Chitor (the then capital of Meywar) the forces of the Maharana of Meywar and Ghyasuddin met at Bednor, when Dhawal and his son Narku were both killed fighting against the enemy. On another occasion, at a battle which took place at Bagor between the armies of Maharana Mokulji and Feroz Shah, seeing that the Maharana's horse was killed, Salji, the son of Dhawal, presented his own horse to the Maharana and fighting gallantly on foot was killed. In the famous battle of Byana in A.D. 1528 between the Rajputs under Maharana Sanga and the Emperor Baber, Thakur Karan Singh was amongst the slain.

In A.D. 1535 Thakur Bhanji Dodia was killed in the battle fought between the Meywar forces and those of Bahadur Shah, Guzerati, when he besieged Chitor.

In A.D. 1568, when the Emperor Akbar was besieging Chitor, Sanda Dodia was sent from the fort to Akbar as a messenger of peace. The Emperor was much pleased with, and desired to offer him a reward; to this Sanda replied that he desired nothing but the welfare of his master's interests. Akbar again repeated his offer of a reward, when Sanda asked that if it should be his fate to fall in battle his corpse might be burned, not buried. To this request Akbar acceded. When the fort was taken, the corpses could not be distinguished owing to their having been mangled, so Akbar, in remembrance of his promise to Sanda, who was amongst the slain, ordered all the Hindu corpses to be burned.

In A.D. 1575 Kunwar Man Singh Kuchwaha of Amber invaded Meywar with the Imperial forces, whilst Akbar remained at Ajmere with an army in reserve, and a great battle was fought at Huldighat on the Bunas. Amongst the slain on that occasion was Bhim Singh, the son of Sanda.

Jey Singh, son of Bhim Singh, attacked Merwara with the Maharana's troops and was killed in the fight which ensued.

Another famous member of this family was Thakur Sardar Singh, under whose superintendence the beautiful island palace of Jagniwas was built in the time of Maharana Jagat Singh. This same Thakur erected a palace and fort at the village of Lawa; the latter was named Sardargarh after him by the then Maharana. But in consequence of the weakness of Thakur Sardar Singh's son, Shaktawut Sangram Singh of Bhindar seized the fort in 1784 and expelled Thakur Sanwunt Singh Dodia.

In A.D. 1849 Maharana Sarup Singh, who regarded the Dodia family favorably as old and loyal servants of the State, sent a force to Lawa and expelled Shaktawut Chatar Singh therefrom, and Zorawur Singh, the father of the present Thakur, was granted the estate. The late Maharana Sujjan Singh, with whom the present Thakur Manohar Singh was a great favorite, bestowed on him, for the second time in this family, the rank of a noble of the first class.

Thakur Manohar Singh is 55 years of age; he has two sons, the elder, Pratap Singh, and the younger, Beri Sal, aged 26 and 24 years, respectively. Thakur Manohar is a man of some note at the capital, where he constantly resides. He is a member of the Mahad Raj Sabha.

Sardargarh or Lawa is situated on the right bank of the Chandra Bhaga river, about 56 miles to the north-east of Udaipur. The hill on which the fort is built is 1,984 feet above sea level.

Sardargarh once possessed a large lake, the water of which irrigated a considerable expanse of country, but the embankment was destroyed by a flood some years ago; the Thakur is desirous of rebuilding it, but the expense is too much for his limited means.

The Thakur is an enlightened man and has a good school on his estate.

Genealogical Tree.

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| <p>(1) Rao Dhawalji—came to Meywar from Guzerat in Sambat 1444, when Maharana Lakhaji was on the throne. When the forces of the Maharana encountered those of the Emperor of Delhi at Bednor, Dhawalji and his younger son Harkaji, with 500 men, fell in the action.</p> <p>(2) Rao Salji—was killed with 300 men in the battle fought during the reign of Maharana Mokhalji with Feroz Shah.</p> <p>(3) Rao Nahar Singhji—was killed in the battle fought in the time of Maharana Kumbhaji, in which Mahmud Khilji was taken captive.</p> <p>(4) Rao Kishen Singhji—was slain in the time of Maharana Rai Malji when the Meywar troops fought against the King of Mandu.</p> <p>(5) Rao Kurum Singhji—fell in the battle at Byana fought by Maharana Sangaji against the Emperor Baber.</p> <p>(6) Rao Bhanji—lost his life at Chitor when Maharana Vikramaditya fought with Bahadur Shah of Guzerat.</p> <p>(7) Sandaji—was killed in Sambat 1624 at Chitor in the battle fought by Akber against Meywar in the time of Maharana Udai Singh.</p> <p>(8) Bhim Singhji—lost his life and that of several hundreds of followers when Kunwar Mean Singh brought the troops of the Emperor of Delhi and encountered Maharana Pratap Singhji at Huldighat.</p> <p>(9) Gopal Dasji—was killed while fighting against the Imperial army near the</p> | <p>Jain temple of Rampur in the time of Maharana Amar Singh.</p> <p>(10) Jey Singhji—was killed when Maharana Kuram Singh sent his troops to subdue Merwara.</p> <p>(11) Nawul Singhji—was killed in the affray between the forces of Maharana Raj Singh and Alamgir.</p> <p>(12) Indra Bhanji.</p> <p>(13) Sardar Singhji—erected the fort of Sardargarh and had authority over a jagir worth two lakhs of rupees.</p> <p>(14) Sawunt Singhji—when Maharana Bhim Singh was the ruling Chief of Meywar, Shaktawut Sangram Singh deprived Sawunt Singh of the fort of Sardargarh in Sambat 1840, A.D. 1784.</p> <p>(15) Rar Singhji—having no jagir spent his life in misery.</p> <p>(16) Zorawur Singhji—Maharana Jowan Singhji granted him the village of Sangwa in jagir. Maharana Sarup Singhji sent his troops against Shukhtawut Chatter Singh (grandson of Sangram Singh) and took from him the fortress of Sardargarh in Sambat 1905, A.D. 1849, and made it over to Zorawur Singh, creating him a noble of the second class.</p> <p>(17) Manohar Singh, the present Thakur—Maharana Shimbhu Singh granted him a jagir and raised his rank, but the late Maharana His Highness Sujjan Singh bestowed on him some additional jagirs and created him a noble of the first class.</p> |
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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF SECOND CLASS NOBLES.

RUPNAGAR.

The owner of this estate bears the title of Thakur and belongs to the Solankhi clan of Rajputs, being a lineal descendant of Sidhrao Jey Singh Solankhi, who ruled in Guzerat from A.D. 1094 to A.D. 1145. When in the thirteenth century this State was destroyed, branches of the family found refuge in various places, and some came to Meywar. One of this family was named Bhojji: he had thirteen sons, the eldest of whom Pataji died during his father's lifetime. Pataji's son was Rai Mal, and Maharana Rai Mal, who succeeded to the *gadi* of Meywar in A.D. 1474, bestowed on his namesake the jaghir of Desuri as a reward for the assistance given by him to Prithi Rajji, a son of the Maharana, in subduing the Madlecha Rajputs of Godwar in A.D. 1481.*

Rai Mal had four sons, (1) Shankarji, whose descendants now live at Jheelwara and are really the senior branch of the family, but the estate of Rupnagar, being the more important of the two, the Solankhis look upon the Thakur of that place as their head; (2) Samunt Singh succeeded to Desuri, and had nine sons, of whom Devi Raj succeeded his father and was in his turn succeeded by his son Biram Deo.

This Biram Deo had been sent on some business to Delhi during the time of Sher Shah, who had driven Humayun out of India. There he quarrelled and fought with a number of Mahomedans on account of their killing the sacred cow, and 360 Solankhis and several hundreds of Rajputs are said to have been killed in their fight for the faith. Biram Deo returned to Meywar badly wounded in A.D. 1552, and Maharana Oodey Singh was so pleased with his conduct that he bestowed on him Sawuntri and four other villages. Biram Deo died in A.D. 1586 and was succeeded by his son Jeswunt Singhji, who, dying in A.D. 1616, was succeeded by his son Dalpat Singh, who died in A.D. 1666. Dalpat Singh's son and successor, Bika or Bikramaditya, was a great hero, and repulsed the Mahomedans who had come towards Desuri under Tahawar Khan, the Commander-in-Chief of Alamgir's (I) army.

When the Emperor Alamgir's forces entered the hills near Udaipur in A.D. 1682 during the time of Maharana Jey Singh, Bikaji captured the ensign of Tahawar's detachment, as well as a drum and twenty camels laden with provisions. The Thakur of Rupnagar still has in his possession the original purwana (document) given by Maharana Jey Singh to Bikaji, approving of his services and congratulating him on the victory he had gained over the Mahomedans. When Maharana Ursiji II made over the district of Godwar to Maharajah Bijoy Singh of Jodhpore in consequence of the disturbances caused by Rutna Singh, Biram Deo II, the great-grandson of Bikaji (who had originally gone to Kotah where the Maharao Rajah of that State had given him a jaghire worth a lakh of rupees, but had been recalled by Maharana Jagat Singh II), refused to bow the knee to Maharajah Bijoy Singh, saying that he would know no master but the Maharana. A poem is still extant and often sung by the bards of Meywar to the effect that "A woman sometimes leaves her husband (or Lord) and marries (or submits herself) to another Lord, as the jaghirdars of Godwar have yielded to the Rajah of Jodhpore, but Biram Deo would not acknowledge the supremacy of the Rajah or offer him his services." To punish his contumacy Maharajah Bijoy Singh sent troops to Desuri. Biram Deo, it is said, made a rigorous defence and held out for a whole year, but being at last directed by Maharajah Ursiji to leave Desuri, he abandoned the place and founded Rupnagar in the hills surrounding the pass or defile so called, and took up his abode there.

Biram Deo died in A. D. 1785 and was succeeded by his son, Jeo Raj, who died seven years later, leaving a son Kuvera Singh, who, dying childless in A. D. 1805, was succeeded by an adopted son, named Rutna Singh, from the village of Bansra. Rutna Singh also left no male issue, and, on his death in A. D. 1810,

* Godaji was the second son of Bhojji and his grandson Akshai Rajji became Ranna of Panurwa, whose descendants still hold that estate.

Sirdar Singh was adopted from the village of Mandpur. To Sirdar Singh succeeded his son Nawal Singh in A. D. 1820.

Nawal Singh died in 1854 and his son, Bairi Sal, is the present Thakur of Rupnagar. He has a son, Bhopal Singh, aged about ten years.

The jaghir in Meywar belonging to the Thakur of Rupnagar is still in his possession and he also has villages in Marwar.

Rupnagar is curiously situated on the summit of the Aravalis between the Desuri and Someshwar Passes. The hill sides of the latter pass, exceedingly steep and precipitous, render the village unapproachable from the north and east, and it is defended by outworks overlooking the plains, and the Desuri Pass on the west and south.

The Thakur of Rupnagar is one of the second class nobles of Meywar. The estate comprises 68 villages, said to be of the annual value of R13,008, but believed to be worth about R45,000. Of these 68 villages, however, 42 are only very small hamlets with an average of not more than fifteen houses. These hamlets are situated principally in and under the Aravali hills.

The Thakur pays R1,600 "chutoond" to the Durbar, and the population is 10,109.

Genealogical Tree of Rupnagar arising from Sidh-Rao Solankhi of Guzerat.

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| (1) Bhojji, a descendant of Sidh Rao. | (11) Shyamal Das. |
| (2) Pataji died in his father's lifetime. | (12) Biram Deo II. |
| (3) Rai Mal-got Desuri. | (13) Jio Raj. |
| (4) Samunt Singh. | (14) Kuvera Singh. |
| (5) Devi Raj. | (15) Rutna Singh. |
| (6) Biram Deo. | (16) Sirdar Singh. |
| (7) Jeswunt Singh. | (17) Nawal Singh. |
| (8) Dalpat Singh. | (18) Bairi Sal, the present Thakur, who |
| (9) Bikramaditya or Bikaji. | has a son, Bhopal Singh. |
| (10) Suruj Mull. | |

MAGROP.

The possessor of this estate is called "Maharaj" and in State papers is addressed as "Baha," a title appertaining to the relatives of the ruling house. He is a second-class noble and a Parawut Sisodia. Purun Mull, also called Puraji, the founder of the family, was a younger son of Maharana Pratap Singh I; he married the daughter of the Bhatti House of Jeysulmere, who is said to have been betrothed to the Emperor Akber. It is related of Purun Mull that whilst on a pilgrimage to Dwarika Nath he assisted the Solankhis of Lunawara of Guzerat, who had been attacked by the Mahomedan Suba of Junagarh, and fighting heroically defeated the latter. In recognition of his valuable services, the Solankhis kept his younger son, Sabal Singh, with them and bestowed on him in jaghir the villages of Mulikpore, Ader, &c., which the Parowats state to be still in the possession of Sabal Singh's descendants. On Purun Mull's return to Udaipur, Maharana Umara Singh granted him the puttā (title deeds) of Magrop, then worth one lac of rupees, in jaghir. Purun Mull cleared the jungle and established the village of Magrop. He was succeeded in the estate by his elder son Nathji. Nathji had two sons, (1) Mahesh Das; (2) Mokhum Singh; the first succeeded his father in Magrop, and from him and his brother two branches arose, one known as the Mahesh Dasot, the other Mokhum Singhot. Mokhum Singh had been granted by Maharana Umara Singh II the village of Arja in jaghir. The jaghirdars of Gurla, Gadarmala, Singholi and Surawas derive their descent from him, and are called Mokhum Singhots; whilst the owners of the Magrop and Athud estates are called Mahesh Dasots as descendants of Mahesh Das. There are a large number of Bhoomias in Meywar who pay what is called "Choutha Banta," i.e., a fourth share of the produce of their lands in both of these families, who all look upon the Maharaj of Magrop as their head. It is related that in the time of Maharana Umara Singh II, the troops of the Subha of Ajmere, assembled in Nandrai, as if under orders from the Imperial Government, Maharaj Mahesh Das attacked, defeated, and dispersed them. The papers written by the Suba of Ajmere to Maharana Umara Singh, relating to this occurrence, are still extant amongst the Durbar records. On another occasion Maharana Umara Singh deputed Mahesh Das with a force to the Bhil country,

and he brought under subjection the still well-known Pals of Nathara and Borai. Mahesh Das was, however, struck in the throat by a Bhil arrow and died from the effects of the wound. He was succeeded by his son, Jeswunt Singh. In A.D. 1700 the Emperor Alamgir gave the pergunnah of Pur Mandel to Kishen Singh; Bednor to Kurun Singh, and Mandelgarh in Meywar to Jujhar Singh, all three Rathores, descendants of Madhava Singh, a younger son of Rajah Oodey Singh of Jodhpore. This action of the Emperor greatly incensed Maharana Umara Singh against the Rathores, but not liking to attack them openly (being assured from time to time that the pergunnah would be restored by the Emperor), he gave secret orders to Maharaj Jeswunt Singh and Dwarika Das Rawut of Deogurh to attack and expel the Rathores. In accordance with these instructions, Dwarika Das took the field with his quota of troops, but halted at the village of Leswa near Bagor, and by thus doing failed to meet Jeswunt Singh at the rendezvous on the night appointed, so Jeswunt Singh proceeded without him to Pur and succeeded in defeating the Rathores. Raj Singh, the son of Kishen Singh, then took refuge in Mandel, but was pursued by Jeswunt Singh and his nephew Bukhat Singh, and expelled from thence. A great number of men on both sides are said to have fallen on this occasion—four or five hundred men were slain on Jeswunt Singh's side, and amongst them Pem Singh, his younger brother.

The descendants of Kishen Singh Rathore are now istimrardars of Jomia of Ajmere. In reward for the services performed on this occasion by Jeswunt Singh, Maharana Umara Singh gave him the village of Atnud, which is still held by the brotherhood of the Maharaj of Magrop. Jeswunt Singh was succeeded by Rutna Singh. In the fight that took place between Maharana Juggut Singh II on behalf of his nephew, Madho Singh, against Esuri Singh for the *gadi* of Jaipur, on the Khari Nadi, in about A.D. 1748, Maharaj Rutna Singh and his brother Run Singh (jaghirdar of Arjza) took the field with 2,000 men and were rewarded for their conduct on that occasion, the former by the grant of the village of Dandu Thal and the latter by that of Singholi. Dandu Thal has since lapsed to the fise, but the brotherhood of Magrop still hold lands in it as Bhoomias.

Singholi is yet in the possession of Run Singh's descendants. Rutna Singh was succeeded by Maharaj Bhawani Singh, Bhawani Singh by Bishen Singh; the troops of the latter, who was then however only a child, fought against Madho Raj Seindia in the time of Maharana Ursiji in A.D. 1769 at Oojein and their loss is said to have amounted to 500 men.

Again under the orders of Maharana Bhim Singh, Maharaj Bishen Singh with his brother Puddum Singh (jaghirdar of Arjza and Muhabbatt Singh, jaghirdar of Gádá Málá) attacked, expelled a body of Mahrattas from Pur. Their loss on this occasion is said to have amounted to 240 men. After Maharaj Bishen Singh came Birud Singh, Murzad Singh, and Girwur Singh. The latter died last year (1884) in his sixtieth year and was succeeded by his son Runjeet Singh, the present Maharaj who is aged 36 years. He has five sons—(1) Ishri Singh, aged 21; (2) Oonkar Singh, (3) Raj Singh, (4) Oodey Singh, (5) Jey Singh, a child of six months old.

Magrop is situated on the left bank of the Bunas river between the Hamirgurh and Bhilwara stations of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. The town is built on the side of a hill. The residence of the Maharaj is in the centre of the town.

There is a small fort on the top of the hill which contains a masonry reservoir for water.

There is also a well half-way up the hill with a wall on the front side, built with the object of sheltering people whilst carrying water to the fort. There is a quarry or pit of what every one believed to be chalk "*Khurya mati*" at Magrop; a specimen was lately sent to Mr. Haekett of the Geological Survey in Calcutta, who kindly had it chemically analyzed by Mr. Mallet, who describes it as follows:—

"Hydrous silicate of alumina with a little iron and magnesia, a very little lime and traces of phosphoric acid—dried at 100° contains 9.59 per cent. of water. The clay when powdered and kneaded with water formed a very plastic mass—the latter was made into small bricks, with sharp square edges, which after drying were exposed for an hour to a dazzling white heat in an injector gas furnace. After cooling they were found not to have bent and the

angles showed only very slight traces of rounding from fusion; the bricks were extremely hard, fairly white in colour, with a glazed surface. The material ought to make very good fire-clay and could also be used for a superior kind of pottery."

During the time of the late Maharaj the estate was in debt, and at his request was put under State management for a period of three years. The result has been that the estate is now nearly clear of its liabilities. The jaghir of Magrop consists of 10 villages, of which the income is said to be ₹9,050, but is probably more than double that sum.

The amount of chutoond paid to the Durbar is ₹1,300, and the population is 4,299.

Genealogical Tree of the Magrop Family arising from Maharana Pratap Singh I.

(1) Maharaj Purun Mull or Puraji, a	(7) Maharaj Bishen Singhji.
younger son of Maha-	(8) " Birud Singhji.
rana Pratap Singh I.	(9) " Murzad Singhji.
(2) " Nathji.	(10) " Girwur Singhji.
(3) " Mahesh Dasji.	(11) " Runjit Singhji, the present
(4) " Jeswunt Singhji.	Maharaj, who has five sons,
(5) " Rutna Singhji.	the eldest of whom, Ishri
(6) " Bhawani Singhji.	Singh, is 21 years of age.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF OFFICIALS.

B.—OFFICIALS.

I.—*Rae Pana Lal.*

Rae Pana Lal belongs to a family, which first acquired the designation of Mehta, from an ancestor Karam Chand, some centuries ago, becoming Pradhan or Prime Minister at Bikanir which State his great grand-son Jewraj left in Sambat 1624, *i. e.*, A. D. 1567, on falling into disfavor.

2. Lal Chand, the son of Jewraj, came to Meywar, where his great-grand-son Prithiraj held some minor appointments under three successive Maharanas, *viz.*, Tagat Singh II (A. D. 1734), Partab Singh II (1752), and Raj Singh II (1755).

The sons of Prithiraj, named Agarji and Hansraj, rose to higher position under Maharana Ari Singh (A. D. 1762), the father of Maharana Bhim Singh with whom our Treaty was made in 1818 receiving a jaghir and the kiladari and hakimi of Mandalgarh, *i. e.*, the charge of that fort and district.

3. This double charge of Mandalgarh has continued to be held by successive members of the family, as one might say its permanent appointment, until last year when a change was made and the hakimi or charge of the district was dissociated from the kiladari or command of the fort. Vithaldas, the great-grandson of Agarji, who had latterly held the double charge, still retains the kiladari, but the hakimi has been transferred to an officer of another family.

Besides the standing appointment of Mandalgarh held by one branch of Prithiraj's descendants, other members of the family have held other high offices, such as the charge of districts, forts, and that of wakil with the Agent to the Governor-General, formerly at Delhi. Three of the descendants of the elder son, Agarji, have been Pradhans or Prime Ministers, *viz.*, Debi Chand, Sher Singh, Gokul Chand, and of these Sher Singh was several times in office, and Gokul Chand more than once. Vithaldas, the kiladar of Mandalgarh, is of the same branch.

4. Of the descendants of the younger brother, Hansraj, three have been hakims of the Jajpur district. The first of the three was Motiram, whose son, Phul Chand, is presently Durbar Representative in the Internal Boundary Settlement Department, *i. e.*, boundaries between State and jaghir lands. The second in that district was Murlidhar, now old and retired, and the third there is his second son, Lachmi Lal, the present Hakim of Jajpur.

Murlidhar has two other sons, the youngest, Takht Singh, being Hakim of the Girwa or head-quarter district around Udaipur, while the eldest is Rae Pana Lal, the present Minister.

5. Regarding the position of Minister, it is requisite here to notice the change which has lately come about. Formerly the Pradhan or Prime Minister had almost entire control of the administration, especially in its Revenue Department, and of appointments in it, with little check or supervision, so long as he brought in revenue satisfactorily.

During the minority, however, of Maharana Shimbhu Singh between 1861 and 1865, a Council of Nobles and officials was appointed, which was to be aided by the advice of the Political Agent, and thus the system of leaving everything to a single Pradhan or Prime Minister became modified, but naturally the officer then in that position remained the leading worker in the Council or Court, and the name of Pradhan was not immediately dropped, though it was not again conferred on any new individual.

6. On Maharana Shimbhu Singh coming of age in 1865, the Court under him was termed the "Kachari Khas," and comprised two officers. These he changed in 1867, appointing as First Minister Kesri Singh Kothari, a former Pradhan, and *Pana Lal* as his Deputy. From this time dates *Pana Lal's* connection, though at first in a subordinate capacity, with the office he now holds.

In 1869 the Maharana changed the name of the Court to Mahkama Khas, which it still retains, and appointed *Pana Lal* as its officer, with limited

power however, as two officers, *viz.*, Gokalchand, a former Pradhan, and Laximan Rao, who had previously been an officer of the "Kachari Khas," were to transact the administrative business and to report to the Mahkama Khas, of which the Maharana was the President, and Pana Lal the working officer.

After a year, however, this double arrangement ceased, and the work was brought directly into the Mahkama Khas, in which, subject to the Maharana's authority, Pana Lal held charge.

7. In 1874 Maharana Shimbhu Singh, when ill, dismissed Pana Lal and put him in confinement. A month later the Maharana's illness terminated fatally, and Pana Lal, though under a guard, had to attend the cremation, during which a Musulman rushed in at him and before he could be secured inflicted on Pana Lal three sword wounds.

In a couple of months he recovered, but as evidently he had enemies and the feelings of the late Maharana's zanana were against him, he retired to Ajmere.

8. On Pana Lal's first confinement the late Maharana had appointed in his place, in the Mahkama Khas, two officers, *viz.*, Gokulchand, already mentioned, and Arjun Singh Sahiwala, the State scribe.

9. In the minority of the next Maharana Sajjan Singh, these two officers of the Mahkama Khas continued for some time working under a Council of Nobles supervised by the Political Agent, but Arjun Singh presently resigned, and Pana Lal, returning from Ajmere, was again brought into office, this time as second minister, the first being his relative Gokul Chand above mentioned.

10. In the year during which Pana Lal was out of office, the administration of the State was not in a satisfactory condition, so that on his return his aptitude for business was at once in requisition.

Not long afterwards several important matters had successively to be arranged for, *e.g.*, the reduction of Bagor, then held by Sohan Singh, uncle of the Maharana, in defiance of the Durbar authority, the visit of the late Maharana to Bombay to meet His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and that of His Excellency Lord Northbrook to Udaipur, all of which events occurred in 1875.

11. In 1877, at the Imperial assemblage, His Excellency the Viceroy conferred on Pana Lal the title of *Rae* in recognition of his services, since which time this style has been used instead of the old family designation of Mehta.

12. In 1878 Mehta Gokal Chand died, and since then Pana Lal has been the single Minister of the Mahkama Khas.

13. Maharana Sajjan Singh, on attaining his majority in 1876, constituted an Upper Council, first called the *Ijlas Khas*, and consisting of 12 members, but now styled the *Mahand Raj Sabha* and comprising 20, of whom 12 are nobles and 8 officials. Among the latter are the Minister Pana Lal and his brother Takht Singh, Hakim of the Girwa.

14. The Maharana is the President of both Courts, although when he is not present, or in matters not specially requiring his orders or sanction, a good deal of current work is of course transacted by the officers.

The Mahand Raj Sabha is chiefly a Council of Direction and Revision. All judicial cases, Criminal and Civil, under appeal or needing final orders, come to it, and all references from subordinate courts.

With the above exceptions, the Mahkama Khas, which may be considered a Board of Administration, transacts the business of every other Department, the Revenue and Expenditure, the Army, &c., &c., so that the functions of *Rae* Pana Lal are practically those of Minister, though without the name of Pradhan, and without the almost unrestricted power formerly attaching to that office, as now-a-days the Maharana reserves to himself a good deal of control in higher matters.

15. In 1876 the Political Agent reported as follows :—

"Mehta Pana Lal is an intelligent, energetic and hard-working officer, and has rendered great assistance to the Political Agent in the administration of the State during the minority. He is the only person capable of holding the high post he now occupies in the State."

Since then *Rae* Pana Lal, now 40 years of age, has fully justified the high opinion thus expressed of him. He is undoubtedly very able. He is thoroughly acquainted with the people of the country, the nobles, officials and peasants, and understands their feelings, and they in return have considerable confidence

in him as one who, knowing their ways, has a regard for them, and will not inconsiderately make rough changes.

On these grounds the nobles generally consider him a safe man, and naturally from his family and antecedents his power with the official class is great.

His influence, which is general in the State, is thus partly personal, derived from his own ability, and partly grounded on the broad basis of official and family connection above described.

II.—KABI RAJ SHAMALDAS.

1. Kabi Raj Shamaldas is by caste a Charan, one of the hereditary bards of Rajputana. His family came from Marwar in the time of Maharana Sangram I, who conferred on his ancestor in Sambat 1575 (A.D. 1519) a jaghir village in the Mandelgarh pergunnah which is still held. Since that time the family has been in the Meywar service and has received several other villages and accessions of honor.

2. Shamaldas is now, titularly, the Kabi Raj or Head Bard of the State, and practically the Historian or Annalist of the family and territory, in which latter capacity he is engaged in collecting materials for a sober prose history of Meywar. For this he has considerable qualifications, as he has a taste for collecting and comparing information from all quarters, and a touch of the critical faculty in weighing it without yielding too ready credence.

3. But beyond this he is the officer who is most generally consulted in general matters by the Maharana. He is clear-headed and outspoken and personally attached to the Prince on whom he is an almost constant attendant. He is one of those whom the Maharana trusts in connection with his own desire to have the higher administrative work under his eye, and, when necessary, under his control, as distinguished from those who might prefer it continuing as formerly, with little check or supervision, in the old official channels.

His influence, which is considerable, is in this way personal, both as regards himself and the Maharana rather than due to any wide or old-standing official basis.

4. He is now 45 years of age and is a member of the Mahand Raj Sabha or State Council. Some of the State Equipage Departments are considered under him, and occasionally he is deputed by the Maharana into the districts as a Commissioner for special duty.

5. But his functions are mainly those of Privy Councillor to the Chief and Historian of the State and Family, for the former of which he is well qualified by his intelligence, frankness of speech and attachment to the Maharana, and, for the latter, by his tastes and training.

NOTE.—This was written by Doctor Stratton during the lifetime of the late Maharana.

BHOOMIA CHIEFS OF JAWAS, PARA AND MADRI AND GRASSIA CHIEFS
OF JOORA, OGNA, PANURWA.

JAWAS.

The Bhoomia Chiefs of Jawas and Pahara (Para) are Sambri Chohans.* Amongst the Chohans who came to Rajputana two of the divisions are called "Sambrias" and "Purbyas." Those who settled to the south of Sambhar are known by the former title, whilst those who first went eastwards from Sambhar and afterwards returned to Rajputana are described as Purbyas from the word "purub," east. Amongst the former are the Chiefs of Gurhi and Arthuna of Banswara and those of Jawas and Pahara (or Para) in the Bhoomut or hilly tracts of Meywar, whilst the Rao of Bedla, the Rawut of Kotharia, the Rao of Parsoli, of Meywar and the Rawut of Jura amongst the Grassia Chiefs in the Kotra district have the epithet of Purbya Chohans.

Rao Lukumsi, the progenitor of the family, is said to have originally left Sambhar for Marwar, and eleven generations afterwards, two brothers, descendants of his—Ganga and Manak—appear to have found their way in A. D. 1262 to Deo Somnath in Doongurpore and afterwards to have attacked and killed Grassia Bansiya Jograj, the Chief, and to have taken possession of Jawas, then the capital of what was called the Kharar district of 700 villages. They divided the district between them, Ganga taking Pahara (Para), and Manack, the younger of the two Jawas.

In A. D. 1746 the Rao of Saloombar attacked Jawas, killed the Chief, Rao Himmat Singh, and took possession of the estate; but it was recovered in 1756 by Himmat Singh's son Rao Natha.

The estate was ravaged again in 1759 by the Saloombar troops, and, in 1824 it was confiscated by Maharana Bheem Singh of Udaipur, but was subsequently restored.

The present Rao Umara Singh is the son of the famous Dowlut Singh, Thakur of Babulwarra, who was foremost in opposing the Government in A. D. 1826-27.

Dowlut Singh was the most influential leader of the Bhils in these tracts. In the course of time he was won over to our side, and on the Meywar Bhil Corps being raised was appointed to it as paid Thakur. Dowlut Singh died in 1841 and was succeeded in the regiment by his son Umara Singh, then only a child of three years of age. Umara Singh succeeded to the Jawas estate in December 1874 on the death of his nephew Bhairooa Singh, retaining the Thakurati of Babulwarra, and the appointment of Regimental Thakur. In 1877 his name was removed from the regiment for neglect in the matter of the arrest of two deserters from the corps, but he was reinstated in the position as a reward for the energy and loyalty displayed by him in the Bhil disturbances of 1881.

Jawas, the capital of the Estate, is situated on the right bank of the river Som, six miles distant by road from the station of Kherwara. The Estate comprises 57 villages, yielding an annual revenue of about, Imperial R12,500, of which Imperial R1,964 is paid as "Chutoond" to the Meywar Durbar. There are 23 other villages belonging to Para, Chani, and Thana in which Jawas has certain rights. The Rao has had two daughters but no male issue. He is the wealthiest and first in rank of all the Bhoomia Chiefs and possesses great influence amongst the Bhil tribes.

The Rao has 43 armed retainers.

* Tod mentions that Sambhar on the banks of the extensive salt-lake of the same name was probably anterior to Ajmere, and yielded an epithet to the Princes of this (the Chohan) race who were styled Sambri Rao.

Genealogical Tree of the Jawas Family.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Manukji. | (16) Surut Singh. |
| (2) Gegaji. | (17) Shatru Salji. |
| (3) Sabal Singh. | (18) Samarth Singhji. |
| (4) Kaluji. | (19) Kushal Singh. |
| (5) Bhoj Raj. | (20) Dowlut Singh. |
| (6) Sekhaji. | (21) Umed Singh. |
| (7) Bhimaji. | (22) Bukht Singh. |
| (8) Shiva Singh. | (23) Himmud Singh. |
| (9) Baghaji. | (24) Nathuji. |
| (10) Chundra Bhanji. | (25) Raghupath Singh. |
| (11) Jeswunt Singh. | (26) Jeswunt Singh. |
| (12) Suruj Mul. | (27) Bhim Singh. |
| (13) Jait Singh. | (28) Bhairava Singh. |
| (14) Umara Singh I. | (29) Umara Singh II. |
| (15) Sirdar Singh. | |

PAHARA OR PARA.

For early history, *see* Jawas.

Lukshman Singh, the present Rawut of Para, succeeded his grandfather Nahar Singh, who died on the 17th of October 1869. Lukshman Singh was then 14 years old, so that he is now about 30.

The Rawut manages his estate well.

In the Bhil disturbances of 1881 he gained the thanks of the Agent to the Governor-General for Rajputana for the energy he displayed in arresting 13 out of 14 of the perpetrators of certain mail robberies which took place at that time.

He has been twice married, first, to the sister of the Rawut of Oghna, by whom he has two sons, Jowan Singh and Dooley Singh, aged seven, and four years respectively. His second wife is the daughter of the Rawut of Madri, by whom he has one son, Budun Singh, who was born one month before Jowan Singh and is therefore heir to the estate. Para is twelve miles distant from the cantonment of Kherwara. The estate comprises 43 villages of the annual value of R (Imperial 10,214), of which R 570 goes annually to the Meywar Durbar as "chutoond." The Rawut keeps 15 men as armed followers.

Genealogical Tree of the Pahara Family.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) Rawut Gangaji. | (14) Rawut Keshav Dasji. |
| (2) " Hekaji. | (15) " Gopinathji. |
| (3) " Bunbirji. | (16) " Sahib Singhji. |
| (4) " Malji I. | (17) " Birum Devji. |
| (5) " Kurrunji. | (18) " Nathuji. |
| (6) " Lunji. | (19) " Urjun Singhji II. |
| (7) " Urjun Singhji. | (20) " Udai Singhji. |
| (8) " Devi Singhji. | (21) " Dowlut Singhji. |
| (9) " Miraji. | (22) " Chatur Singhji. |
| (10) " Malji II. | (23) " Suruj Mulji. |
| (11) " Akshai Rajji. | (24) " Nahar Singhji. |
| (12) " Pemjaji. | (25) " Khumon Singhji. |
| (13) " Bhim Singhji. | (26) " Lukshman Singhji. |

MADRI.

The Rao of Madri claims descent from a younger son of Ajaji Rawut of Kanor of Meywar, second son of Maharana Lakha. The head of this (the Madri) family is said to have been Mal Deo, who founded Madri in A.D. 1548. The present Rao Raghunath Singh succeeded his father in 1851; he was then 15 years of age. He married first a daughter of the Thakur of Bag in Jura; by whom he had two sons and three daughters, and second a cousin of the Jura Rawut, by whom he also has issue. The family now consists of five sons and three daughters. The eldest son, Bukhtawar Singh, aged 31 years, is married to the daughter of Zorawur Singh, uncle to the Rawut of Para; the second son is Runjit Singh, aged 20; the third, Partab Singh, aged 14; the fourth, Manohur Singh, aged eight; and the fifth, Amar Singh, two years of age. The

Rao's eldest daughter is married to the Rawut of Oghna, the second to the Rao of Para, and the third to the Thakur of Madra.

The Rao is an intelligent man, though of rather a hard and grasping nature, and at one time he rendered himself somewhat unpopular by resorting to distasteful measures for adding to his revenue. In April 1882, however, Colonel Conolly, with the assistance of the Rao's eldest son, put matters between the Rao and his Bhils on a more satisfactory footing and affairs have since worked well.

The capital of the estate "Madri" lies north-north-west of Kherwara, from which it is distant 30 miles.

The estate consists of 22 villages of the annual value of Imperial Rs. 7,774, of which Rs. 392 (Imperial) is paid as "chutoond" to the Meywar Durbar.

The Rao maintains 22 armed followers.

Genealogical Tree of the Madri Family.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Mal Dev. | (8) Nath Singh. |
| (2) Nathji. | (9) Punjaji. |
| (3) Hari Singh. | (10) Samunt Singh. |
| (4) Shanwal Das. | (11) Lal Singh. |
| (5) Bhim Singh. | (12) Chuttur Sal. |
| (6) Keshri Singh. | (13) Prithwi Singh. |
| (7) Dawlut Singh. | (14) Raghunath Singh. |

JURA.

The Rawut of Jura, a Grassia Chief of the hilly tracts of Meywar, is a Purbya Chohan, whose ancestor, Rawut Putta, is said to have come from Idur in the Mahikanta in A. D. 1398 and to have taken possession of the lands in the neighbourhood of Jura from a Bhil named Jugja. Little is known of the history of the Jura family from the time they settled themselves in this wild tract of country, ever since inhabited by them, until the British Government came on the scene in 1827, when Captain Speirs, having settled (I quote mainly from Brooke's History of the hill tracts of Meywar and reclamation of the Bhils) affairs in the Kherwara district proceeded to arrange the Grassia States of Oghna, Panurwa, and Jura. Supremacy over these States had been claimed by the Maharana of Meywar, though it could not be shown that they ever paid tribute to Meywar or performed any service that might be deemed one of vassalage. Sir Charles Metcalfe had previously written in reply to this demand by the Rana, "Those Chiefs whom we found independent when our mediation was established in this part of India are still in equity independent; and we ought not to lend our aid to reduce them to subjection. All that we require from them is the security of our subjects and allies against the predatory irruptions of their people, and a safe passage through their territory for travellers and merchandise." In consequence of this decision Jura and Panurwa for time retained their independence, whilst Oghna offered a voluntary fealty to Udaipur.

In A. D. 1828 an affray had taken place between the Grassias and some Cabul merchants at the village of Kekar in the Jura territory, not more than ten miles from Pindwara of Sirohi, in which 21 of the merchants lost their lives, and the whole of their property was plundered. A few years after this a party of one Havildar, one Naique and fifteen Privates of the 21st Bombay Regiment Native Infantry, were attacked in the Girwar pass in Mount Abu, and eight of their number killed and five wounded. The Rao of Sirohi sent in a list of 22 men as the murderers, most of whom were residents of Kherah-kaserai in the Jura country. As no measures, in spite of the frequent remonstrances of the Political Agent, were taken by the Rao of Jura to arrest the murderers, orders were issued for taking possession of and sequestering to the British Government the territory of the Rao of Jura. A force was sent with this purpose, but the Rao of Juramet the force on the borders of his territory and no resistance was offered. Punishment was meted out to the offending village, but as it was found that the revenues of Jura would not cover the expense of its management the estate was made over to the Maharana of Udaipur. When the Meywar Bhil Corps was raised in 1841, seven companies were enlisted for Kherwara. The post for

the Jura country, consisting of three companies, was raised in 1844 and fixed at Kotra, which has ever since been the head-quarters of the Second-in-Command of the Corps, who is also Second Assistant to the Resident in Meywar; and carries on, in connexion with a Meywar wakil attached to him, all political duties connected with the three Grassia Chiefs of Panurwa, Oghna, and Jura.

The capital of the estate, Jura, is in latitude $24^{\circ} 30'$, longitude $73^{\circ} 16'$ and situated 13 miles as the crow flies from Kotra. The estate comprises 129 villages, of which 69 are khalsa, with an approximate revenue of Imperial $\text{R}4,365$. Out of which a sum of $\text{R}476$ is paid annually as "chutoond" to the Meywar Durbar.

The approximate amount of revenue from the 60 jaghir villages is Imperial $\text{R}3,175$, and the tribute paid to the Rawut is $\text{R}553$ per annum.

The Rawut has an armed force of 40 men.

The present Rawut Zorawar Singh, is the son of the former Rawut, Gooman Singh, whose father was Rawut Soorut Singh.

Zorawur Singh is about 46 years of age, can read and write Hindi and became Rawut in A.D. 1857. He has three sons, Sheo Singh, Partab Singh, and Purbut Singh, aged about 18, 10 and 8 years, respectively.

Zorawur Singh is well intentioned, but intensely indolent and apathetic; his sons are absolutely uneducated and owing to his affairs having become deeply involved, the management of the estate has been in the hands of the Second Assistant to the Resident in Meywar since April 1876.

Family Tree of the Jura House.

(1) Rawut Putta.	(13) Rawut Juggut Singh.
(2) " Kumbha.	(14) " Nahar Singh, died without issue, was succeeded by his uncle.
(3) " Natha Singh, died without issue, was succeeded by his uncle.	(15) " Rutna Singh, died without issue, succeeded by his brother.
(4) " Bir Singh.	(16) " Surut Singh.
(5) " Narayan Das.	(17) " Gooman Singh.
(6) " Narsingh Das.	(18) " Zorawur Singh, present Rawut, aged 47, whose eldest son is Shio Singh, aged about 18.
(7) " Man Singh.	
(8) " Bhagwan Das.	
(9) " Jait Singh.	
(10) " Dileep Singh.	
(11) " Sangram Singh.	
(12) " Akhai Raj, died without issue, was succeeded by his younger brother.	

OGHNA.

The family of the Rawut of Oghna have the same descent as that of Panurwa. Nahruji, the second son of Hur Pal, No. 4 on the Panurwa list, received 12 villages in addition to Rajpur and Kumharbas. At that time one Oodey Raj Dudiah Brahman ruled at Oghna, which then comprised sixty villages. The Bhils, however, would not obey their Brahman Ruler and were constantly committing robberies and other crimes. Upon this Oodey Raj gave two villages in jaghir to Nahruji on condition of his protection. In return for this Nahruji treacherously murdered his benefactor at the festival of the Dussehra in A.D. 1585 and possessed himself of his lands.

In A.D. 1599 a fight took place between the Rajah of Idur (probably Narayan Das was the then Ruler of Idur) and the Rawut of Jura. The Rawut of Oghna, who was fighting on Jura's side, was killed with his leader. The son of the then Rawut of Jura gave to the son of the then Rawut of Oghna the village of Bura as "Mundkati" (ransom for the head) of the Rawut. The present Rawut Umara Singh succeeded to the estate in A.D. 1871. He has no son, but a younger blind brother Bheem Singh, who has a son Dooley Singh, about nine years of age. Umara Singh is an active, energetic and intelligent man, whose thriving little estate does credit to his management as a Ruler.

Oghna is situated in latitude $24^{\circ} 31'$, longitude $73^{\circ} 24'$, sixteen miles, as the crow flies, north-east of Kotra, on the left bank of the river Wokal.

The estate consists of 45 villages of the annual value of R7,000, of which R400 is paid as "chutoond" to the Meywar Durbar. The Rawut has no male issue. He maintains 20 armed followers.

Genealogical Tree of the Oghna Family.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| (1) Nahruji, second son of Hur Palji,
first Rana of Panurwa. | (7) Sujan Singh. |
| (2) Devi Raj. | (8) Deo Singh. |
| (3) Doongur Singh. | (9) Samunt Singh. |
| (4) Keshri Singh. | (10) Lal Singh. |
| (5) Ajmul. | (11) Hamir Singh. |
| (6) Jeshraj. | (12) Kishen Singh. |
| | (13) Umara Singh (present Rawut). |

PANURWA.

The original founder of the Grassia estate of Panurwa was Akshai Raj, who was the grandson of Bhoj Raj Solankhi (for an account of whom see under head of Rupnagar). The second son of Bhoj Raj was Godaji, who had a son Sultan Singh. Sultan Singh had seven sons, all of whom left their ancestral homes and came to the hilly tracts of Meywar, and took up positions in the neighbourhood of the village of Manpur. Akshai Raj, the eldest of the seven brothers, attacked and killed Jio Raj, a Jadu Rajput, and took possession of Panurwa in A.D. 1478; Jio Raj, his son Oodey Bhanji, and several hundreds of Jadus and Solankhis were killed in the encounter, but the latter were victorious and became the masters of Panurwa. Akshai Raj's six younger brothers, and it is said, Akshai Raj himself, intermarried with the Bhil women of the country and have ever since been considered as outcasts by their Rajput brethren. Akshai Raj was succeeded by Raj Singh, who erected a "Duri Khana" or reception hall and a pavilion in the village of Jurol. Raj Singh was followed by Mahi Pal, who built a residence, and a temple to Maha Deo in a cave amongst the hills near Panurwa in A.D. 1546. Har Pal succeeded Mahi Pal and did good service to Maharana Oodey Singh, who took refuge in the hills when attacked by Akbar, and in return for these services received from the Maharana the title of Rana or Runna. Har Pal was followed by his eldest son Deeda; his second son was named Nahruji. In succession to Deeda came Punja, who was present with several hundred men, probably Bhils, on the occasion of the battle of Huldighat, fought in A.D. 1577 between Maharana Pratap Singh and Kunwar Man Singh of Amber, aided by the troops of Akbar. Punja, however, fled with his men at the crisis of the fight.

It is recorded that Maharana Umara Singh, the successor of Maharana Pratap Singh, sent for Rup Singh, the younger son of Punja to Udiapur, when he, with a party of his men were induced to ascend a stair in the Kunwar-Pada-ka-mahal, heir-apparent's palace, and that when they did so the doors were closed behind them, and blocked up with brick and mortar, and that all the unfortunate victims died of suffocation. This atrocious deed is said to have been committed in A.D. 1619 in revenge for the flight of Punja from the battle-field of Huldighat; but as the fight took place 42 years prior to this wholesale series of murders, there was probably some other cause for the atrocity. Punja, it is said, though summoned, did not come to Udaipur, and when pressed by the State troops took refuge in the hills, became, in fact, an outlaw.

A lady belonging to the household of the Rao of Idur was on her way to some place when Punja seized and kept possession of her. To avenge this outrage on his honour the Rao of Idur attacked Punja, and in the fight that ensued Punja, with 300 of his followers, was slain. The lady became *sati* with Punja's body. This occurred in A.D. 1624; (according to Forbes Kulyan Mull was probably the Rao of Idur at that time). The present Grassia Chief of Panurwa is Arjun Singh, his father Bhowani Singh was the eldest son of the late Rao of Oghna Kishen Singh. On the death in November 1852 of Runna Partab Singh there was no direct heir to the Rannaship as Partab Singh's only son Zorawur Singh had been murdered in 1847.

Partab Singh's widow, however, declared that the deceased Runna had intended adopting Bhawani Singh, who was descended from a branch of the Panurwa family, about ten generations removed.

Another claimant, however, appeared in Buddun Singh, son of Bijoy Singh, Thakur of Adiwas, a jaghir of Panurwa, who was the nearest of kin to the deceased Runna, being descended from a branch of the family only three or four generations removed. Bhawani Singh's party, however, put the rival claimant to flight, but in consequence of Bhawani Singh allowing a deputation from Idur (of the Mahi Kanta) to fasten a turban on his head prior to obtaining the sanction of the Meywar Durbar to his succession, he was summarily deposed by the Maharana of Udaipur, who then installed Bijoy Singh as Runna. In a few months the excesses of Bijoy Singh caused the Udaipur Durbar to depose him and to reinstall Bhawani Singh. Bhawani Singh died in November 1881 and left two sons, *viz.*, Urjun Singh, the present Runna, who is about 22 years of age, and Madho Singh, about 15.

The capital of the Panurwa estate is Manpore; situated in latitude $24^{\circ} 15'$, longitude $73^{\circ} 20'$, eleven miles as the crow flies south-east of Kotra, on the left bank of the river Wakal.

There are altogether 92 villages belonging to the estate, 48 of which are khalsa, yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 4,365 of Imperial currency, of which Rs (Imperial) 397 is paid annually as ehutoond to the Meywar Durbar.

The approximate annual value of the 44 villages belonging to jaghirdars is Imperial Rs 3,175. The Ora Thakur is the only jaghirdar who pays any tribute; the sum at which he is assessed is Imperial Rs 95 annually. The other two jaghirdars, Umria and Adiwas, pay no tribute.

The Runna of Panurwa keeps 25 armed followers. He has no issue.

Genealogical Tree of the Panurwa Family.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| (1) Akshai Raj, great-grandson of Bhoj Raj Solanki (<i>see</i> Rupnagar). | (10) Runna Bhugwanji. |
| (2) Raj Singh. | (11) " Jodhji. |
| (3) Mahi Pal. | (12) " Raghunath Singhji. |
| (4) Hur Pal received the title of Runna from Maharana Oodey Singh. | (13) " Nathu Raj. |
| (5) Runna Deeda. | (14) " Guman Singh. |
| (6) " Punja. | (15) " Keerti Singh, brother of 14. |
| (7) " Ramji. | (16) " Keshri Singh. |
| (8) " Chundra Bhan. | (17) " Oodey Singh. |
| (9) " Suruj Mull. | (18) " Pratap Singh. |
| | (19) " Bhawani Singh. |
| | (20) " Arjun Singh, present Runna. |

